DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 406 000 PS 025 208

TITLE	The California Child Care Portfolio, 1997: A Compilation of Data about Child Care, County by County.
INSTITUTION	California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, San Francisco.
PUB DATE	97
NOTE	137p.; Photographs may not reproduce well.
AVAILABLE FROM	California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, 111 New Montgomery Street, 7th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105; phone: 415-882-0234.
PUB TYPE	Statistical Data (110) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	*Counties; *Day Care; *Day Care Centers; Demography; Early Childhood Education; Employed Parents; Family Day Care; Minimum Wage; Resource Materials; *State Surveys; Statistical Surveys
IDENTIFIERS	*California; Child Care Costs; *Child Care Needs; Child Care Resource Centers

ABSTRACT

This compendium provides standardized data on child care supply and requests for care in California. It provides county and statewide information based on responses from more than 38,000 child care providers and about 45,000 requests for child care, including: (1) key demographic statistics; (2) county population; (3) children in poverty; (4) languages spoken at home; (5) children with working parents; (6) children using care outside the home; (7) minimum wage; (8) average child care costs and percent of minimum wage consumed by child care costs; (9) number of licensed family child care homes and centers, and the number of slots in each; (10) percent of slots in homes and centers that offer full-time and part-time care or care during nontraditional hours; (11) percent of children needing different types of care; and (12) percent of families requesting care in various languages. The publication begins with a summary of statewide findings regarding child care costs and availability. Findings indicate that only 4 percent of child care slots are licensed to serve children under 2 years; only 2 percent of centers offer care during evening, weekend, or overnight hours; 36 percent of child care requests for children under 6 years are for part-time care; and 45 percent of children needing child care referrals were between 2 and 5 years of age, 36 percent were under 2, and 20 percent were school-age. (KDFB)

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The California Child Care Portfolio

A compilation of data about child care, county by county

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California Child Care Resource & Referral Network

The California Child Care Portfolio

1997

A compilation of
data about child care
in California,
county by county

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Letter from the Executive Director

January 1997

For those of us concerned with issues confronting families, the next few years will be extremely important as new policies make an already limited supply of child care even tighter. As welfare reform takes effect, parents will be compelled to find employment, yet most of the available jobs will pay low wages. Many will have to work during nontraditional hours, such as swing shifts, evenings, or weekends. Parents who find entry-level jobs are unlikely to encounter employers who will be lenient with them when child care arrangements fall apart and they are late or unable to come to work. Societal shifts will also continue to affect the availability of child care, which in turn affects the ability *of all* parents to find child care. The U.S. Census Bureau recently reported that the number of single-parent households, most of which are headed by women, is at an all time high.

What all of this means is that it has become extremely important for communities to plan well in order to make the best possible use of limited resources for child care. And the first step to better planning is to understand what parents need: More off-hour care? More infant care? More after-school care? More family child care? More center-based care? Care closer to work?

The California Child Care Portfolio provides some answers. Based on responses from more than 38,000 child care providers and approximately 45,000 requests for care throughout the state, it is the first compendium of accurate, standardized data on child care supply and requests for care in all 58 counties of California. It offers the hard data that planners and policy makers at community, county, and state levels require to find solutions to child care challenges. It provides a portrait of child care availability in each county, allowing county planners to compare their child care situation with that of counties of similar size and population. The data can also be used at the "micro" level: one resource and referral agency has already begun overlaying supply data from the *Portfolio* with zip code maps that show the population of AFDC families. What they're seeing is a great shortage of child care in particular neighborhoods.

At the state level, the *Portfolio* provides a bird's eye view of child care needs throughout California and a powerful tool for addressing them.

Finally, the *Portfolio* establishes a baseline for all of us to understand the current state of child care in California. It will be updated periodically to help those caring for children—as well as industry, government, educators, philanthropic organizations, and parents themselves—plan better for the years ahead.

For more than 17 years, those of us at the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network and our 60 member agencies have worked to find solutions to child care issues, to help parents find child care that matches their family needs, and to improve and expand the supply of child care in California. We believe the *Portfolio* can be used to identify problems and shortages and to predict trends that will have an effect on child care availability. We hope this data will enable all of us to decide how to provide the best possible care for our youngest citizens and the assurance their parents need in order to work productively.

Sincerely,

Patty Siegel

Patty Siegel
Executive Director
California Child Care Resource & Referral Network

Child Care: An important component for a healthy economy and a healthy community

If parents were to compose "wish lists" the way children do, near the top of most lists would be child care that is close to home, reasonably priced, and of good quality. It's no surprise that child care is such a priority when you consider the following facts:

- In a 1995 survey by the U.S. Department of Labor, 56 percent of mothers with children under five identified "finding affordable child care" as a *serious* problem.
- After food, housing, and taxes, child care is the fourth largest expenditure for families with children, according to one study, and third largest according to another.
- Two-parent families have hit a record low, while single-parent households—mostly headed by women— have reached a record high. According to a 1996 U.S. Census Bureau report, traditional two-parent families with children comprise only one quarter of all households.
- Recent statistics quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* indicate that by the year 2001, 69 percent of families will consist of single parents or two parents who work full time. Nearly all will require child care.
- While families struggle to pay for child care, many child care providers are paid poverty wages. They average, nationwide, only $11,725 in salary annually; one-third of child care workers make only minimum wage and only 18 percent receive health benefits, according to the National Center for the Early Childhood Workforce.

Throughout the state, only four percent of slots in child care centers are licensed to serve infants under the age of two.

Problems of availability, affordability, and quality will become more complex as current welfare recipients move into the work force. Most of these parents will find jobs that pay only a low or minimum wage; many will be required to work less popular swing and graveyard shifts, hours that make it even harder to find child care.

Yet child care has an enormous impact on a parent's ability to hold a job and on his or her performance on the job. Worker absenteeism due directly to child care problems costs U.S. businesses an estimated $3 billion per year. "Child or elder care problems lead to increased absenteeism, work disruptions, turnover, and stress, all of which then damage productivity and morale," noted the *Wall Street Journal*, referring to a Families and Work Institute study. Studies of large companies show that helping employees resolve work and family conflicts boosts employee morale and increases worker productivity.

Moreover, increasing numbers of businesses are operating 24 hours a day. Child care must keep up with these new, expanded work schedules. As the data in the *Portfolio* illustrates, the greatest availability of child care is for preschoolers during regular work hours. Yet the growing demand is for care during off hours and for infants and school-age children.

The California Child Care Resource & Referral Network has set out to provide vital, long overdue data to community and regional planners, corporate leaders, and to those who shape public policy at all levels of government. By systematically collecting and analyzing the numbers—county by county—and by interviewing staff members at each of the 60 local resource and referral (R&R) agencies in the state, the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network is able to provide the first consistent, standardized data about child care in California, the state where 10 percent of America's children live.

Standardized Child Care Data: What the Results Reveal

The *Portfolio* is a portrait of child care in each county in the state. It is a uniform entry point into the complex world of child care that displays which issues are unique to each county, which are universal to each region, to urban areas, to rural areas, and to the state as a whole.

Until now, child care policy decisions have relied heavily on anecdotal and impressionistic information. It was clear that these "guesstimates" were inadequate for solving current child care shortages, let alone those looming in the future. But until completion of this report, it was not possible to point to standardized child care information or to draw accurate conclusions. Now with real data, it is obvious that some child care issues are more serious than many realized.

Throughout the state, only four percent of slots in child care centers are licensed to serve infants under the age of two. Clearly, the supply of licensed child care for mothers who work and who have very young children is extremely limited. As more low-income mothers with children under two join the workforce because of welfare reform, competition for these limited infant slots will increase. Although parent requests received by R&Rs do not represent the universal demand for child care, it is significant that 36 percent of children needing child care referrals throughout the state were under the age of two.

While almost one-third (29 percent) of family child care homes offer care during evening, weekend, and overnight hours, only two percent of child care centers offer care during these nontraditional hours. According to census data, almost 20 percent of working Californians leave for their jobs after 10 a.m. for part-time or off-hour shifts. This shortage of care during nontraditional hours creates child care problems for families working off-hour shifts. With welfare reform, it is likely that even more parents will require child care during nontraditional hours because many of the entry level positions available will be the less popular shifts that experienced workers often do not want.

Parents who called their local resource and referral agencies requested part-time care for 36 percent of the children under six. Although the majority of child care providers offer full-time and part-time care, many providers prefer children to be enrolled full-time, reducing the number of part-time slots available. The percentages of children needing part-time care will probably increase during the early years of welfare reform, as current federal legislation mandates immediate participation in the work force, beginning with 20 hours per week. This suggests that the child care supply must be flexible enough to accommodate changing work schedules.

Seventy-seven percent of parents throughout the state called their local R&R for child care because they are working. These figures continue to underscore the iron-clad connection between employment and the need for child care.

Although there are nearly three and a half times more licensed family child care homes than licensed child care centers, family child care home capacity is only 31 percent of the total licensed capacity in the state. This finding is especially significant because family child care is the most available, consistent source of infant care and care during nontraditional hours. This suggests the need to expand the supply of family child care homes, particularly those able to care for infants and those willing to provide care during nontraditional hours.

Less than half of the children (45 percent) needing child care referrals were preschoolers between the ages of two and five. Thirty-six percent of children needing child care were infants under two, and 20 percent were school-age children, six years and older. This finding is especially significant when juxtaposed with the distribution of licensed center care for these age groups.

Eighteen percent of family child care home providers and staff in 41 percent of the child care centers can provide care in Spanish. According to the 1990 Census, 20 percent of Californians speak Spanish at home. Percentages of those speaking other languages at home, such as Tagalog, Chinese, Vietnamese, or Korean, are close to those offered by child care providers and in centers. Although California can be proud that statewide child care providers are addressing the needs of the non-English-speaking population, local communities need to be cognizant of their demographics to ensure that they are each meeting the child care needs of their non-English-speaking families.

Parents calling the R&Rs requested care close to home for 84 percent of children. This overwhelming preference by parents for care close to home suggests that local communities must take into account where families with young children currently live—and are expected to live in the future—when targeting their child care supply-building efforts. It also illustrates the importance of good public transportation for parents who do not drive to work.

In urban areas, family child care home capacity represents 30 percent and child care center capacity represents 70 percent of the total number of licensed slots. In rural areas, the number of slots in centers and homes is more evenly divided: the capacity of centers is 54 percent compared to a 46 percent capacity in family child care homes. As the state and counties plan for the child care needs of the current workforce and the workforce after welfare reform, they must consider the vast disparities of the child care supply across the state. Resources must be targeted to ensure that parents throughout the state have equal access to the kind of care that best meets the needs of their families.

Parents in urban areas calling R&Rs for child care referrals requested part-time care for 35 percent of children under age six, while parents in rural areas requested part-time care for 56 percent of children under age six. In addition, parents calling R&Rs in rural areas requested nontraditional care for almost twice as many children as parents in urban areas. These findings illustrate the unique economic realities facing urban and rural Californians, and underscore the different needs of parents in urban and rural areas. The state and counties must be mindful of these realities when planning for current as well as future child care needs.

Only two percent of child care centers offer care during evening, weekend, and overnight hours.

Note

Keep in mind that a county may appear to have a sufficient supply of child care, but if centers only accept preschool-age children, the numbers may conceal a shortage of infant or school-age center-based care in that community. Likewise, when looking at the availability of part-time care slots, counties can come up short for their population. By looking closely at each county's data, it becomes clear that *availability* of child care slots does not guarantee *access* to child care. Myriad issues such as cost, transportation, age preferences, special needs, and location often inhibit parents' abilities to take advantage of the child care that is available.

The data also helps to understand how regional issues affect child care needs and concerns. For example, in San Francisco the high cost of living, demographic diversity, and multiplicity of languages shape the local child care picture; in the San Joaquin Valley long commutes, seasonal employment, and low wages have different effects on families.

Understanding the county data pages

The California Child Care Resource & Referral Network has prepared individual data sheets on every county in California and for the state as a whole. This information has been compiled in the format you see on these sample pages. To receive a copy of your individual county pages, call your local resource and referral agency (R&R). Your local R&R can also provide more detailed information about child care in your county. To purchase a copy of the complete *Portfolio* that includes every county in the state, contact the Network at 415-882-0234.

Sacramento County

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Sacramento is largely a government town that has grown quickly alongside its Central Valley neighbors. Over the past decade, new communities—from Elk Grove in the south to Antelope in the north to Folsom in the east—have grown up in what used to be farmland and fields.

Sacramento has seen the arrival of some new high-tech industry, yet many newer jobs pay below union scale, and this new growth is somewhat canceled out by military base closures and economic recession. Many residents have been forced to work more than one job to make ends meet. Consequently, more families are patching together child care, and more parents are seeking financial assistance for care.

Among the greatest demands (and the most challenging to fulfill) are for infant care, care for children with special needs, and flexible care to meet parents' irregular work hours. Finding adequate, appropriate, flexible care is time-consuming and requires ongoing contact with Child Action, Inc., Sacramento's resource and referral (R&R) agency. The R&R has seen a steady increase in the number of first-time parents seeking information and resources—many of whom don't need child care for many months but are anxious about the process. In response to new work demands and increasing family pressures, the emphasis of the resource and referral agency has expanded to include more parenting and counseling services than previously offered.

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"One week a parent needs care on Tuesday and Wednesday, the next week Friday. It's just not predictable anymore because of job pressures. This is difficult, not only for parents, but for providers—who don't have flexible schedules. How can you run a stable business when kids are popping in and out?"

❸

At a Glance

The People

❹ An estimated 1,236,049 residents, including 260,953 (21%) children under the age of 14; 128,319 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older

❺ An estimated 25,580 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty. 25,787 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty. 20% (51,367) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

❻ English 84%, Spanish 7%, Chinese 2%, Tagalog, Vietnamese 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

❼ 50% of children 5 years and younger, and 61% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 59,042 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 30,111 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 87,209 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 17,442 are in child care outside the family.

❽

❾ 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

❿ Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)

⓫ Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $146/week or $7,592 annually (73% of minimum wage)

Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $106/week or $5,512 annually (53% of minimum wage)

Excerpted from *The California Child Care Portfolio* ©1997 (permission to reproduce granted). California Child Care Resource & Referral Network (available through your local resource and referral agency). Data included is from: 1990 Census of Population and Housing STF-3, U.S. Bureau of the Census. CPR, P70-53 "Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?" March 1996. U.S. Bureau of the Census. CPR, P70-30 "Who's Minding the Kids?" Fall 1988. State of California, Population Projections, July 1995. 1996 Regional Market Rate Survey of California's Child Care Providers: Mean Rates for Child Care, and R&R provider and caller databases.

❶ **Narrative about child care issues in each county** (based on interviews with R&R staff members across the state who talk with hundreds of thousands of providers and parents each year)

❷ **A general observation by R&R staff members in each county**

❸ **Overview of key demographic statistics for each county that affect child care**

❹ **County population** (based on Department of Finance Population Projections, July 1996 and 1990 Census of Population)

❺ **Children in poverty** (based on 1990 Census of Population and 1996 Population Projections)

❻ **Languages spoken at home** (from 1990 Census of Population)

❼ **Children with working parents** (based on 1990 Census of Population and 1996 Population Projections)

❽ **Children using care outside the home** (based on "Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?," "Who's Minding the Kids?," and 1996 Population Projections)

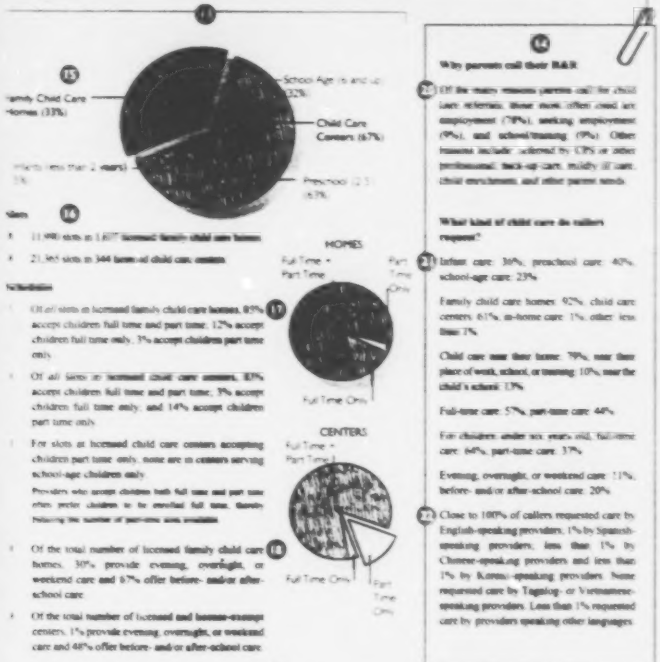
❾ **Percentage of county residents who work traditional day shifts and the percentage of those who work nontraditional hours** (1990 Census of Population)

❿ **Minimum wage** (in California, as of March 1, 1997)

⓫ **Average cost of child care in the county and percentage of minimum wage consumed by child care costs in the county** (child care costs from the 1996 Regional Market Rate Survey of California Child Care Providers: Mean Rate Report, or information from local R&R agency. This information is not available for counties without infant and/or preschool care for these age groups.)

Child Care Capacity in Sacramento County

(12) For information about child care in Sacramento County, call Child Action, Inc. at 916-387-0510.



(14) **Why parents call their R&R**

(20) Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (78%), seeking employment (9%), and school/training (9%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

(21) Infant care: 36%, preschool care: 40%, school-age care: 23%

Family child care homes: 92%, child care centers: 61%, in-home care: 1%, other: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 79%, near their place of work, school, or training: 10%, near the child's school: 13%

Full-time care: 57%, part-time care: 44%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 64%, part-time care: 37%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 11%, before- and/or after-school care: 20%

(22) Close to 100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers, 1% by Spanish-speaking providers, less than 1% by Chinese-speaking providers and less than 1% by Korean-speaking providers. None requested care by Tagalog- or Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

(15) 11,980 slots in 1,807 licensed family child care homes

(16) 21,365 slots in 344 license-ex child care centers

(17) Of all slots in licensed family child care homes, 85% accept children full time and part time, 12% accept children full time only, 3% accept children part time only.

Of all slots in licensed child care centers, 83% accept children full time and part time, 3% accept children full time only, and 14% accept children part time only.

For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.

(18) Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 30% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 67% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 48% offer before- and/or after-school care.

(19) **Languages Spoken by Providers**

In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English, 11% Spanish, 1% Tagalog, less than 1% Chinese, Vietnamese, none, Korean, 1% of providers speak other languages.

Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers close to 100% have providers who speak English, 33% Spanish, 2% Chinese, 1% Vietnamese, less than 1%, Tagalog, none, Korean, 1% have providers who speak other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

...ble the statistics included in *The Informed Child Care Portfolio* offer a ...file of care available in each county, it ...uld be noted that many factors (including ...t of care, availability of special schedules, ...es that providers accept, language matches, ...aring to work with children with special ...eds, location, proximity to public ...nsportation, and the provider's ability to ...ept siblings) impact a family's ability to ...e advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g. they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

(12) Name and phone number of local R&R agency(ies)

(13) Information from local R&R agencies' provider data bases (collected December 1995)

(14) When parents call their local R&Rs for child care referrals, the agency collects information about the callers and their needs. While this data does not represent the total child care demand in each county, it does represent the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California. R&Rs collected this data from April through June 1996.

(15) Licensed family child care homes and centers (percentage of "slots" [number of children that providers are licensed to serve at one time] in each. Slots in centers are designated by age group [infants, preschool, and school-age]; breakdown is noted on the graph. The vast majority of slots in centers are designated for preschoolers 2–5 years old.)

(16) Total number of licensed family child care homes and centers, and the number of slots in each

(17) The percentage of slots in licensed family child care homes and centers that offer full-time and part-time care, full time only (35 hours or more/week), and part time only (less than 35 hours/week) care (The percentage of part-time only slots in centers, the piece of the pie that has been pulled out, is further broken down into slots in those centers serving school-age children only. In most cases the vast majority of part-time only slots serve all ages.)

(18) The percentage of licensed family child care homes and licensed and license-exempt centers that offer evening, overnight, or weekend care, and before-and after-school care (These numbers are critical, given the number of jobs that require working nontraditional shifts.)

(19) The percentage of licensed family child care homes and licensed and license-exempt centers with staff who speak these languages (Compare these numbers to the languages spoken at home.)

(20) Reasons that parents call include: employment, in school or training, seeking work, Children's Protective Services (CPS) or professional referral, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, or other parent needs. (Parents may request care for more than one reason, so totals may exceed 100%.)

(21) The data collected shows the percentage of children needing different types of care. (Since families may request care of more than one type, schedule, or location, totals may exceed 100%.)

(22) The percentage of families requesting care in each language (Since families may request care in more than one language, totals may exceed 100%.)

(23) An explanation of the data and how it was collected

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Compiling the Data: A Task for the Network

Decisions regarding child care cannot and should not be undertaken without accurate, up-to-date information about the current state of child care in every community in California. The task of collecting that information fell naturally to the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network whose member agencies have responded to parents' requests and providers' needs for more than 20 years.

The California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, founded in 1980, coordinates services that assist local R&Rs to provide guidance to parents, child care providers, policy makers, and business and community leaders in each county. The Network also

- works closely with elected officials and state and local leaders to assure broad-based understanding of child care issues
- works with local, regional, and statewide agencies to maintain, increase, and improve the supply of child care through special programs that promote child care as a profession
- develops innovative programs that are implemented by local R&R agencies
- produces materials to educate parents to be good child care consumers
- offers a variety of training to child care providers to help improve child care services
- trains local agencies to recruit and prepare men and women for jobs in the field.

A single mom earning minimum wage in a full-time job will pay, on average, in California, 68% of her salary for child care for one infant in a licensed child care center.

Local resource and referral agencies

- help parents find child care that best meets their family needs
- document parents' requests for child care services
- maintain comprehensive databases of child care providers in their communities, including licensed family child care homes and child care centers
- track providers' licensing status, the languages they speak, the age groups they serve, the schedules they offer, and the number of spaces available in centers or family child care homes
- work with providers to improve the quality of child care and to maintain and expand the supply of child care in each county
- provide training and other services that help providers stay in business
- educate local communities and leaders to understand child care issues and to plan effectively to address child care needs.

Resource and referral (R&R) agencies are located in every county in California; some large counties have more than one agency, a few small counties share an agency with a neighboring county. Over the last two decades, R&R services have evolved from a grassroots effort to help parents find child care, to a well-developed system that supports parents, providers, and local communities in finding, planning for, and providing affordable, quality child care. The state, through the California Department of Education, Child Development Division, has supported these efforts since 1976.

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The Data

The data contained in the *Portfolio* is a byproduct of the R&Rs' close association with parents and providers. R&R staff members at each agency have first-hand knowledge of the specific and unique child care needs, provider needs, economic trends and their resulting effects on child care in their individual communities. What they did not have, until now, was a standardized method of collecting data. Historically, agencies collected similar types of data, but technology and local demands and conditions often drove the methods of collection and dissemination of information. This served individual communities well, but made it difficult to compile and compare data from different agencies for use in regional, statewide, and national child care documentation, planning, and advocacy efforts. One county's formula for recording information was different from another's, so analyzing the results meant comparing the proverbial apples and oranges.

To remedy this situation, the Network and its member agencies established uniform data collection and reporting procedures for the supply of licensed child care and parent requests for child care services. This effort became known as the Data Standardization Project. Beginning in 1989, Federal Dependent Block Grant funds distributed to local R&R agencies by the California Department of Education supported this project. In subsequent years, support for the Network to direct the data collection, analysis, and creation of the *Portfolio* came from the Miriam and Peter Haas Fund and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

With this funding, individual resource and referral agencies throughout California began developing standard data collection and reporting procedures for the information they had already been gathering from providers and parents who call to request child care referrals. While the *Portfolio* reflects state and countywide data and information, the Network can also provide and analyze information about the local supply of child care by areas as small as the zip code area in each community throughout the state.

Over a period of several years, the Network led training sessions for each local agency so that all data could be collected from providers and parents in the same manner, across the state. Finally, the information was tabulated and compiled in this first edition of *The California Child Care Portfolio*.

How the Information was Collected

Each R&R maintains data files that are updated year round with information about the supply of licensed child care in its service area. Each agency also retains information about child care services requested by callers. To establish consistency of information across the state, the Network organized a data standardization project team to develop a uniform format for the R&Rs to collect, update, and report specific child care provider and caller information. Every R&R gathered the information the same way. The information included in the *Portfolio* reflects provider information updated by each agency during December 1995, and caller information collected between April and June 1996.

Data was gathered from active, licensed family child care homes and licensed and license-exempt child care centers. It does not include what some refer to as informal caregivers, such as family members or neighbors.

After the Network collected the information from each R&R in each county, R&R staff members throughout the state provided additional contextual information and anecdotes. Relevant information from the Census Bureau and data from the 1996 Regional Market Rate Survey of California Child Care Providers were compiled. It is this data collection and information that created *The California Child Care Portfolio*.

It is important to remember that the information collected for this project was gathered from parents who telephoned their local resource and referral agencies between April and June 1996. It is possible that many parents who needed care *did not* call their local R&R agency; unfortunately, the Network has no way to determine what these parents' needs were and whether or not they eventually found care. Nevertheless, the Network believes the information that was collected is a fair and accurate representation of each community's needs, because it reflects real, expressed child care needs rather than estimates or projections of needs.

More than half the children in California under the age of five live in households where both parents or the single parent head-of-household are in the labor force.

Acknowledgments

The California Child Care Resource & Referral Network would like to thank all the resource and referral agencies for their support of the Data Standardization Project and *The California Child Care Portfolio*. This project could not have been completed without their highly skilled and enthusiastic participation. R&R participation in the project was made possible by the California Department of Education, Child Development Division through a combination of state funding and the Federal Dependent Care Block Grant. We would especially like to thank the current and former members of the R&R Data Standardization Project Committee who have worked diligently since 1990 to guide and implement this project. Current members include Richard Jeske (NCO-Rural Communities Child Care, Lake/Mendocino counties), Nan Mitchell (YMCA Childcare Resource Service, San Diego County), Elia Pennington (Crystal Stairs, Inc., Los Angeles County), and Janet Shaw (Community Connection for Child Care, Kern County).

Finally, the Network extends its appreciation to the Miriam and Peter Haas Fund and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation for providing the financial support for the Network to direct the data collection, analysis, and creation of *The California Child Care Portfolio*. The Network also thanks the East Bay Community Foundation and the BankAmerica Foundation for funding toward final publication of the report.

California

"California has made great strides in helping to provide the support for child care that parents desperately need in order to work. But greater challenges loom as the number of parents who work part time or during off hours increases, and as low-income families struggle to find care that doesn't consume most of their earnings."

Patty Siegel, California Child Care Resource & Referral Network

California, the state where 10% of America's children reside, was named one of the ten best states for child care by *Working Mother* magazine in June 1996. "California continues to be a leader among the states in child care, increasing the number of youngsters served and working hard to upgrade quality," wrote the editors.

But many challenges remain. Virtually every county in the state reports shortages of certain kinds of care, and throughout the state there are long waiting lists for subsidized care.

In a state that is diverse enough to encompass the glitz of Hollywood, the isolation of small mountain and desert communities, and miles of suburban neighborhoods, it might seem child care problems and their solutions would vary greatly. To some extent that's true: parents in rural communities tend to have somewhat different needs than those living in urban centers. In isolated parts of the state, for example, parents must sometimes drive very long distances for child care; in urban and suburban areas, parents are more easily able to find care near home or work, or somewhere along the route to work.

Most problems related to the supply of child care, however, are evident in virtually every community in California. There is not enough infant care; there are waiting lists (sometimes very long ones) in most communities; and, there is not enough care *anywhere* to meet the needs of the growing number of parents who don't work 9-to-5, but must work night shifts, swing shifts, or other nontraditional hours.

In communities across the state, the greatest force driving child care supply, however, is the economy. From large fluctuations, such as a base closure, to the smaller shifts in employment caused by the arrival of a new Wal-Mart with its evening and shift work, virtually any economic change in a community or region can upset the delicate balance of child care supply and demand. Ironically, counties with *growing* economies as well as those with *slowing* economies can end up with severe, sudden shortages of care. Inevitably, California's communities will continue to experience waves of economic change. But anticipating these changes and planning for them can help alleviate disruptions in the child care delivery system.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 33,863,639 residents, including 7,091,668 (21%) children under the age of 14; 3,558,919 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 602,927 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 669,704 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 18% (1,272,631) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 69%; Spanish: 20%; Chinese, Tagalog: 2%; Korean, Vietnamese: 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 51% of children 5 years and younger, and 59% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 1,647,881 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 840,419 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 2,284,436 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 456,887 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $135/week or $7,020 annually (68% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $94/week or $4,888 annually (47% of minimum wage)

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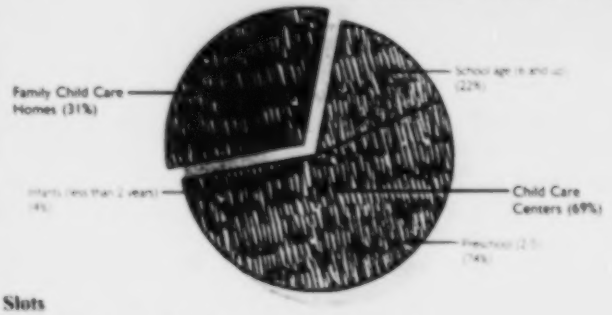
Child Care Capacity in California

For information about child care in California, call the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network at 415-882-0234.



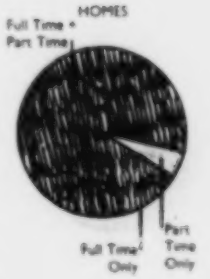
Slots

- 234,247 slots in 30,730 licensed family child care homes
- 531,848 slots in 8,831 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 83% accept children full time and part time; 12% accept children full time only; 5% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 71% accept children full time and part time; 7% accept children full time only; and 22% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 22% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 29% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 62% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 45% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 98% of providers speak English; 18%, Spanish; 1%, Chinese, Tagalog; less than 1%, Korean, Vietnamese. 7% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers close to 100% have providers who speak English; 41%, Spanish; 3%, Chinese, 2%, Tagalog; 1%, Korean, Vietnamese. 7% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (77%), school/training (12%), and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 36%; preschool care: 45%; school-age care: 20%

Family child care homes: 77%; child care centers: 55%; in-home care: 4%; other: 2%

Child care near their home: 84%; near their place of work, school, or training: 12%; near the child's school: 9%

Full-time care: 64%; part-time care: 41%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 69%; part-time care: 36%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 8%; before- and/or after-school care: 13%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 5%, by Spanish-speaking providers; 1%, by Chinese-speaking providers; less than 1%, Tagalog-, Korean-, Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Glossary of Child Care Terms

before- and after-school programs These programs are available at many elementary schools and other sites for parents who need to drop off their school-age children before school begins, or leave them at school until the end of the work day.

CPS *Child Protective Services.* A program administered by the California Department of Social Services to help children at risk of abuse or neglect within their families.

GAIN *Greater Avenues to Independence.* A job training and education program, funded by the State of California, for people receiving welfare.

Head Start A federally-funded program for low-income families with children between the ages of three and five. In addition to child care and early learning programs, these half-day sessions also offer health care and parent training. Head Start programs are licensed by the state's Department of Social Services.

Seventy-seven percent of parents throughout the state called their local R&R for child care because they are working.

home care Home care providers may care for children from only one other family besides their own. Children go to the provider's home for care.

infant care Care for children two years or younger.

in-home care A friend, relative, babysitter, or nanny cares for your child in your home, full time or part time. This is usually the most expensive type of care.

licensed child care center A facility that can provide care for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children all or part of the day. Although generally larger than family child care homes, centers may be large or small and can be operated independently or by a church or other organization. The Department of Social Services licenses centers.

licensed family child care homes Care offered in the home of the provider, who is often a parent. The number of children a family child care provider can care for at one time depends on the ages of the children and whether or not there is an assistant or a second provider. Often care is provided for a mixed age group of children.

license-exempt care There are three categories of license exempt care: home care where a provider cares for children from only one other family besides his or her own at home; in-home care where a friend, relative, babysitter, or nanny cares for a child or children in the child's home; and certain centers for school-age children or military child care programs which are regulated by other agencies.

mildly ill care Care for children who, due to illness, cannot attend school or go to their regular child care.

nontraditional care Care during hours other than 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. This includes care provided during split, evening, or overnight shifts and is sometimes referred to as off-hour or odd-hour care.

odd-hour, off-hour care Same as nontraditional care.

provider A person who provides child care.

R&R Abbreviation for resource and referral agency.

school-age care Care for school-age children which may be provided in home- and center-based settings.

slot Space for a child in a family child care home or center.

subsidized care Financial assistance from state or federal funds available to low-income families who meet the state's income eligibility requirements. This type of care is available in licensed child care centers, family child care homes, and by license-exempt sitters.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

A compilation of data about child care in California, county by county

1997

For copies of *The California Child Care Portfolio*, contact **California Child Care Resource & Referral Network** at 415-882-0234. For copies of the individual county pages, contact your local resource and referral agency (R&R).

Alameda County

"Several years ago, parents were most interested in the cost and location of child care. Now the issue of quality is at the forefront. Many parents want us to screen providers for them, asking us to 'just tell me which one to pick...' or 'which one do you use?' They're looking for a recommendation, which is not what we provide."

Alameda County's large and diverse population is served by three separate resource and referral (R&R) agencies—Bananas in Oakland, 4C's in Fremont, and Resources for Family Development in Livermore. Many parents commute great distances to work, and finding care along these commuter routes is a shared concern for many Alameda County families. "Many parents we serve don't live in the area, but work here or commute through," explains a staff member at 4C's. "Some are going north, some south, and some parents who live here are going in opposite directions."

Alameda County has one of the highest percentages of subsidized care in the Bay Area, although the northern part of the county has a greater concentration of low-income families than south county communities. Finding child care is a greater problem in the south where high-priced developments in the Hayward, Tri-Valley, Castro Valley region continue to be built. Rarely, however, are these new developments accompanied by an adequate number of new child care spaces.

Child care during nontraditional hours, special needs care, and infant care are among the county's greatest demands. The availability of school-age care tends to vary from city to city and from school to school.

Within Alameda County lies the city of Berkeley, long known for its unique views and activist population. Berkeley leads the state in alternative forms of child care, such as "cooperatives" and "shares" in which several parents split the cost of hiring an in-home provider who rotates from home to home with the children. Berkeley's industrial sector has also demonstrated an interest in child care innovations as well: Bayer Corporation, one of Berkeley's largest employers, undertook a highly successful program that is increasing child care options for low-income residents.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 1,394,651 residents, including 266,841 (19%) children under the age of 14; 147,461 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 20,152 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 20,502 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 15% (40,654) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 75%; Spanish: 9%; Chinese: 4%; Tagalog: 3%; Korean, Vietnamese: 1%. 7% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 54% of children 5 years and younger, and 64% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 67,262 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 34,303 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 90,168 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 18,034 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $159/week or $8,268 annually (80% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $111/week or $5,772 annually (56% of minimum wage)

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Child Care Capacity in Alameda County

For more information about child care in Alameda County, call 4C's of Alameda County at 510-790-0658, Resources for Family Development at 510-455-5111, or Bananas at 510-658-7101.

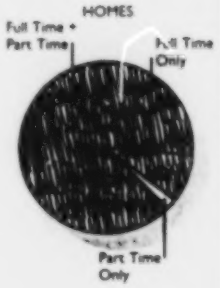
Slots

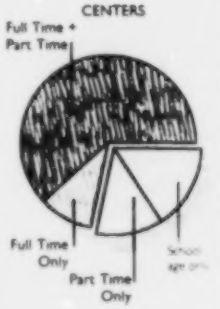
- 14,963 slots in 1,897 licensed family child care homes
- 30,492 slots in 535 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 89% accept children full time and part time; 9% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 62% accept children full time and part time; 10% accept children full time only; and 28% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 56% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 28% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 56% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 40% offer before- and or after-school care.





Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English; 14%, Spanish; 2%, Chinese, Tagalog; less than 1%, Korean, Vietnamese. 6% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 36%, Spanish; 12%, Chinese; 7%, Tagalog; 3%, Vietnamese; 1%, Korean. 15% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (81%), school/training (9%), and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: school/training, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 40%; preschool care: 41%; school-age care: 19%

Family child care homes: 75%; child care centers: 54%; in-home care: 11%; other: 3%

Child care near their home: 80%; near their place of work, school, or training: 7%; near the child's school: 14%

Full-time care: 60%; part-time care: 41%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 66%; part-time care: 35%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 5%; before- and/or after-school care: 14%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 1% by Spanish-speaking providers; less than 1% by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Vietnamese-speaking providers; none by Korean-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Alpine County

Like much of the Sacramento/Mother Lode region of California, Alpine County is mountainous and rural. While it shares the ski season and some winter recreation with other counties in the area, Alpine is unique both for its fluctuating population—between 800 and 1,100 residents depending on the season, and for its lack of privately-held land—much of the county is part of the U.S. Forest Service or the Washoe Reservation. About one-quarter of its residents belong to the Washoe Tribe and live on the reservation.

In this sparsely populated county where most residents have lived for a long time, parents learn of available child care by word of mouth. "If somebody were planning to start up a child care home, everybody would know about it right away—even before she was licensed," explained a staff member of Choices For Children, the local resource and referral (R&R) agency. County residents do rely on the R&R for the other programs it offers, including parenting workshops, family support services, and special events, such as the annual holiday and springtime celebrations. The R&R's car seat program is also popular. Families can receive a car seat from the R&R and also receive detailed instructions on how to use it as their child grows.

"In a community this small where most residents have lived for so long, parents hear of child care referrals from friends and neighbors. They use us for other family-related information and connections to community services."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 1,283 residents, including 277 (22%) children under the age of 14; 95 (7%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 45 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 46 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 33% (91) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 91%; Spanish: 3%. 6% of residents speak at least one of 5 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 32% of children 5 years and younger, and 56% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 36 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 18 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 93 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 19 are in child care outside the family.
- 89% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 11% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $90 week or $4,680 annually (45% of minimum wage)

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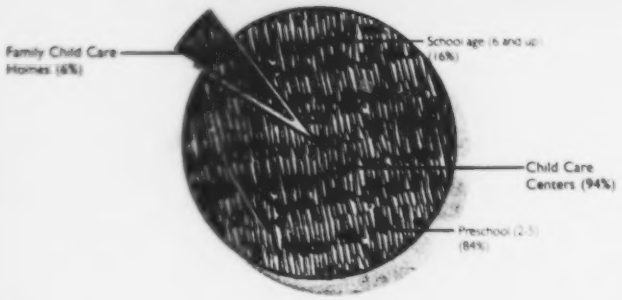
Child Care Capacity in Alpine County

For information about child care in Alpine County, call Choices For Children at 916-694-2129.



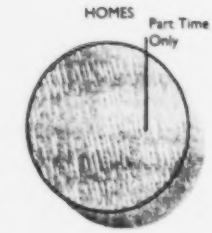
Slots

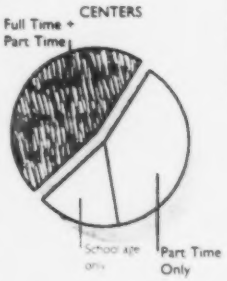
- 6 slots in 1 licensed family child care home
- 94 slots in 4 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- The county's single licensed family child care home accepts children part time only.
- Of all slots in licensed child care centers, 46% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 54% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 29% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- The county's single licensed family child care home provides weekend care; it does not offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 50% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 25% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Many parents contact the R&R for subsidized child care information, but generally find care independently through word of mouth in their small, close-knit communities. Often they rely on neighbors or family members. They also turn to the R&R for special programs: parenting classes, child development workshops, the infant car seat program, and special events, which are always well attended.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- The county's single licensed family child care home is a provider who speaks English and no other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Amador County

"By collecting data, we've been able to identify needs and secure funding for subsidy programs. The need for respite programs became so apparent that the county helped with funding."

For many new families who move to Amador County's foothills from urban areas in other parts of the state, the relatively low cost of child care is a pleasant surprise. For those parents who travel outside the county to jobs in Sacramento or Stockton, child care costs are within their budget, but finding providers along their commute route is sometimes more challenging.

Other Amador County parents face different kinds of child care challenges. Poverty tends to be less visible because it exists side by side with affluence. A sizeable number of families need parenting information and financial assistance in addition to child care referrals. And, as in most other counties, the demand for infant care is steadily increasing. When two providers opened their doors recently to infants, word spread that infant care was available and requests flooded Amador County's resource and referral (R&R) agency, HRC—Child Care Resources. As a result, recruitment for more infant care providers has begun.

More than three-quarters of Amador County residents work in services, retail trade and public administration—fields that often do not conform to an 8–5 work schedule. Another substantial group of parents are firefighters who protect the region's grassy foothills. Firefighters often work three-day, 24-hour shifts, and many need flexible, long-term care. Meanwhile, fewer than 10 providers in the county offer off-hour child care. As a result, there is a tremendous need for weekend and nighttime child care.

Because of Amador County's size, staff members at HRC—Child Care Resources often serve in a variety of roles; one person may serve on the local child care planning council, facilitate training workshops, and provide child care resources and referrals. As 'jack of all trades,' the agency has become the county's primary source of information about children and families. "We are the first source of information—the first line of defense—for many families at the lowest income levels... as well as for those whose income is just above limits for subsidy eligibility."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 36,653 residents, including 5,413 (15%) children under the age of 14; 6,534 (18%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 293 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 367 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 1[illegible]% (660) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 92%; Spanish: 5%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 16 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 51% of children 5 years and younger, and 60% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 1,113 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 567 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 1,948 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 390 are in child care outside the family.
- 79% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 21% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $130/week or $6,760 annually (65% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $85/week or $4,420 annually (43% of minimum wage)

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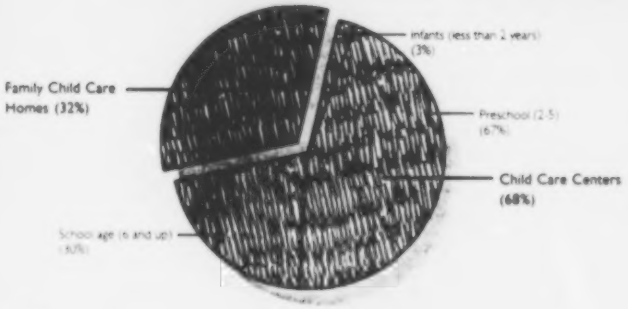
Child Care Capacity in Amador County

For information about child care in Amador County, call the HRC—Child Care Resources at 209-223-1624.



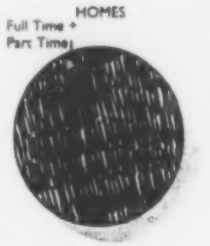
Slots

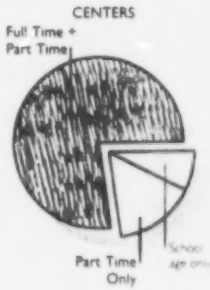
- 234 slots in 29 licensed family child care homes
- 505 slots in 17 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of all slots in licensed family child care homes, 100% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time or part time only.
- Of all slots in licensed child care centers, 77% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 23% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 33% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 29% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 75% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 75% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (62%), seeking employment (14%), and referred by CPS or other professional (11%). Other reasons include: school/training, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 32%; preschool care: 39%; school-age care: 29%

Family child care homes: 89%; child care centers: 40%; in-home care: 3%

Child care near their home: 77%; near their place of work, school, or training: 31%; near the child's school: 8%

Full-time care: 28%; part-time care: 81%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 29%; part-time care: 75%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 16%; before- and/or after-school care: 21%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 3%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 14% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 10%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 10% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Butte County

"Parents who are in college don't need full-time care; they need three-quarter-time care. That creates a tricky situation where providers have lots of openings during the summer and winter breaks when those parents can take care of their children themselves."

"Few and far between" is how Butte County residents describe services in their vast county where communities are usually a long drive from one another. Within the county is Chico, one of only a few cities north of Sacramento, as well as the sparsely populated mountains of Lassen National Forest. Child care concerns in the county vary somewhat by area, although the issue is a big one for most families.

Staff members at Valley Oak Children's Services, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, note that they serve many parents who are students at Chico's colleges. When enrolled in college, parents may not need—or be able to afford—full-time care because of their academic schedules. These parents add to the growing need for part-time care in the county.

Like most counties in the state, Butte finds the greatest need is for infant care, school-age care, and care during non-traditional work hours. Child care providers are limited both by licensing laws and practical considerations in the number of infants and toddlers they can care for at any one time. Since care for school-age children is by nature only part time, many providers find it uneconomical to take more than one or two (if any) school-age children into their programs.

Many parents commute long distances to work sites in Chico or other employment centers within (and outside) the county, and require early morning and later evening care to cover the hours of their commutes. Adding to the demand for non-traditional or extended hours of child care are parents who work in service industries, hospitals, or large retail concerns and find themselves with swing and late night shifts or unpredictable hours. Few providers wish to provide care in the early morning, late evening, overnight, or on weekends, making the child care search difficult, at best, for parents whose work schedules necessitate child care during these non-traditional times.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 210,717 residents, including 40,107 (19%) children under the age of 14; 36,525 (17%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 4,845 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 4,844 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 24% (9,689) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 91%; Spanish: 5%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 19 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 47% of children 5 years and younger, and 58% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 8,198 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 4,181 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 13,139 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 2,628 are in child care outside the family.
- 78% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 22% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $166/week or $8,632 annually (83% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $75/week or $3,900 annually (38% of minimum wage)

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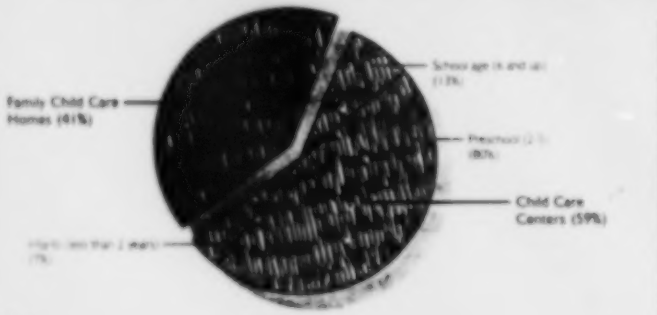
Child Care Capacity in Butte County

For information about child care in Butte County, call Valley Oak Children's Services at 916-895-3572.



Slots

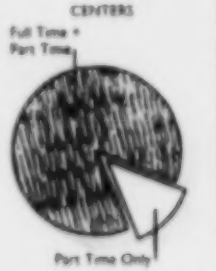
- 1,782 slots in 230 licensed family child care homes
- 2,614 slots in 57 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of all slots in licensed family child care homes, 94% accept children full time and part time; 4% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of all slots in licensed child care centers, 87% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 13% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.

- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 10% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 44% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 3% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 61% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (68%), school/training (16%), and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 29%; preschool care: 44%; school-age care: 27%

Family child care homes: 93%; child care centers: 85%; in-home care: 6%; other: 16%

Child care near their home: 97%; near their place of work, school, or training: 11%

Full-time care: 56%; part-time care: 51%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 60%; part-time care: 45%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 7%; before- and/or after-school care: 8%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% requested care by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English; 7%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 1% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 99% have providers who speak English; 34%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Calaveras County

"The community demands that we provide information about parenting issues, as well as referrals for child care. Fortunately, the small size of our county enables us to develop ongoing relationships with the community, pay a lot of attention to parents, and give providers information and training that ranges from business advice to licensing procedures."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 43,775 residents, including 8,547 (20%) children under the age of 14; 7,753 (18%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 580 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 755 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 16% (1,335) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 95%; Spanish: 3%. 2% of residents speak at least one of 15 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 44% of children 5 years and younger, and 58% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 1,548 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 789 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 2,882 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 576 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $124/week or $6,448 annually (62% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2 - 5 years old in a licensed child care center: $85/week or $4,420 annually (43% of minimum wage)

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The majority of parents seeking child care referrals in Calaveras County live in the higher income west county region—home to approximately 20 providers. Many of this bedroom community's residents commute to urban areas for employment, some as far away as the Bay Area. Thus, there is a growing need for providers that offer transportation to and from care and care for extended periods of time. As there is no major industry *within* the county, service providers such as local government and education are the county's largest employers.

But the needs of west county parents do not tell the whole story. Calaveras County's elevation climbs from just above sea level to 7,000 feet, making many areas remote and some difficult to reach in winter. With few child care providers, some parents must travel 50 miles in the opposite direction of their commute to reach a child care provider. Flexible care, to meet the needs of parents working rotating shifts and irregular hours, is also in demand.

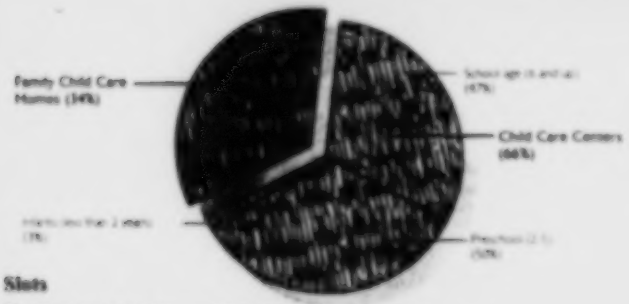
The county has four school districts (two of which are in the western part of the county) and several have different year-round schedules. Without consistently calendared summer vacations, the need for year-round after-school programs is growing.

Those retirees who have found themselves raising grandchildren are also in search of resource and referral (R&R) services. Special counseling, parenting advice, and practical information about children's activities are often provided by the HRC—Child Care Resources to meet the needs of this new R&R customer.

"Most new parents seeking infant care don't know that we exist. They'll call the number of providers listed in a phone book who might not be able to take them, and they'll get referred to us. These parents need time, attention, and information about parenting and child care. We help a lot of parents moving here from urban areas, many of whom are more savvy in their knowledge of R&R agencies, but are unfamiliar with rural resources and are anxious about their child care options."

Child Care Capacity in Calaveras County

For information about child care in Calaveras County, call the IRC—Child Care Resources at 209-754-1875.



Slots

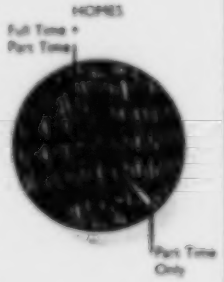
- 246 slots in 33 licensed family child care homes
- 473 slots in 12 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of all slots in licensed family child care homes, 98% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of all slots in licensed child care centers, 80% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 20% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 26% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.

- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 42% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 82% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 69% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (75%), seeking employment (13%), and school/training (11%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 27%; preschool care: 48%; school-age care: 25%

Family child care homes: 95%; child care centers: 36%

Child care near their home: 87%; near their place of work, school, or training: 31%; near the child's school: 2%

Full-time care: 31%; part-time care: 69%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 37%; part-time care: 63%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 7%; before- and/or after-school care: 15%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English, 9% Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 3% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 6% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Colusa County

"We have a lot of people who work hard but make very low wages, and are still poor. They are in desperate need of subsidized care, but these are the families that fall through the cracks because we do not have enough to offer them."

Colusa County's economy depends primarily on agriculture. As a result, many residents are engaged in seasonal jobs that pay lower wages. In winter months, when there is little work, more parents can be at home with their children and the demand for child care drops off. This is a problem for child care providers in Colusa County who need to maintain a year-round business. "We have providers who start up during peak season and then we lose them in the winter. They go to all that trouble to set up a family child care home, and then the demand drops off. We lose good providers because they want something more reliable than seasonal work."

Long hours and odd-hour shifts are a fact of life in an agricultural community. Parents may leave for work as early as 4:30 a.m.; many work 12-hour shifts; many work weekends. Canneries and packaging plants often operate 24 hours a day. Without an adequate supply of child care options, many parents are forced to rely on untrained, unlicensed relatives, friends, or neighbors to take care of their children during their off-hour shifts.

When parents have to choose between paying for infant care and paying for older children to participate in after-school programs, "parents will leave their school-age kids home alone." Because school-age care tends to be the lowest priority for parents, the cost must be kept low for these spaces. However, child care providers are limited by law in the number of children they can care for at one time, and school-age care is necessarily part time. This makes it nearly impossible for providers to maintain full-time enrollment (or to charge high enough rates for after-school spaces to make up for part-time income) that incorporates school-age care, and to still make a living wage from their businesses.

In Colusa County the resource and referral (R&R) agency has become a sort of community center. Parents know the R&R staff and feel comfortable approaching them wherever they run into them.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 19,237 residents, including 4,653 (24%) children under the age of 14; 2,421 (13%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 309 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 485 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 17% (794) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 68%; Spanish: 29%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 10 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 48% of children 5 years and younger, and 60% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 844 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 430 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 1,745 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 349 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $64/week or $3,328 annually (32% of minimum wage)

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Child Care Capacity in Colusa County

For information about child care in Colusa County, call Children's Services/Colusa County Office of Education at 916-458-0300.

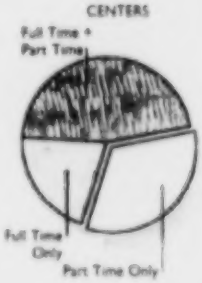
Slots

- 378 slots in 45 licensed family child care homes
- 296 slots in 9 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of all slots in licensed family child care homes, 98% accept children full time and part time; 2% accept children full time only. None accept children part time only.
- Of all slots in licensed child care centers, 46% accept children full time and part time; 21% accept children full time only; and 34% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.



- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 64% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 93% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 22% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 76% of providers speak English; 44%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 2% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 67%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (67%), school/training (19%), and seeking employment (11%). Other reasons include: mildly ill care, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 21%; preschool care: 37%; school-age care: 42%

Family child care homes: 98%; child care centers: 2%.

Child care near their home: 53%; near their place of work, school, or training: 51%; near the child's school: 2%

Full-time care: 64%; part-time care: 45%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 52%; part-time care: 48%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 26%; before- and/or after-school care: 47%

69% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 62% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Contra Costa County

"Parents increasingly take advantage of the variety of R&R resources when they call in for referrals. We find that an increasing number of calls are for 'other' information, besides referrals. We're fielding calls ranging from questions about teething to how to deal with a teenage child who's using drugs."

Contra Costa is often described as a microcosm of California. Geographically, it is a collection of cities, suburbs, towns, and rural stretches, and like the state as a whole, the county has experienced tremendous growth over the past 25 years. Many newcomers have been families, attracted to Contra Costa's high quality schools and new suburbs. In response to this new growth, Contra Costa was one of the first counties in California to assess developers for child care.

The county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, Contra Costa Child Care Council, works with families with a wide variety of child care needs. For parents commuting to jobs in San Francisco or Alameda, the demand for care during non-traditional hours is high. Additionally, the county faces a shortage of both infant care and school-age care. "Finding supervised activities for children ages 10 to 14 is an increasing concern," explains a staff member at the Contra Costa Child Care Council. "These kids are traditionally served through after-school recreation programs, however now children of these ages are not showing up in school-site programs. This issue needs to be addressed in some systematic fashion." Many low-income families struggle to pay for the cost of care in Contra Costa. Although the Child Care Council receives funding to provide subsidized care to eligible families throughout the county, there still are not enough subsidized centers to match the demand.

Serving children with special needs is also a rapidly growing challenge for Contra Costa's child care providers, particularly those who do not have the training or facilities to handle complex medical or emotional needs. In response, the Child Care Council strives to educate both the provider community and families. "Our consumers are changing and the special needs population is growing. It will take a partnership between parents and providers to learn how to best meet the needs of these children."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 909,585 residents, including 182,929 (20%) children under the age of 14; 98,829 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 9,551 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 10,489 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 11% (20,040) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 82%; Spanish: 7%; Chinese, Tagalog: 2%. 7% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 54% of children 5 years and younger, and 65% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 44,281 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 22,583 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 65,519 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 13,104 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $159/week or $8,268 annually (80% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $111/week or $5,772 annually (56% of minimum wage)

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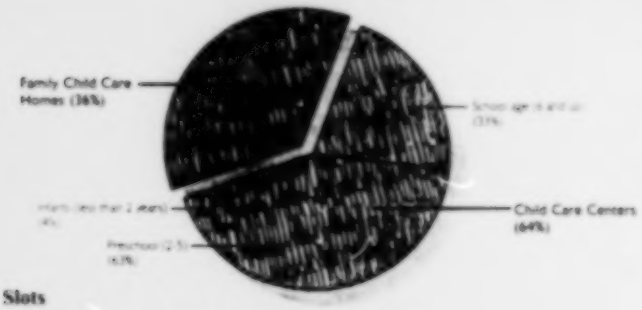
Child Care Capacity in Contra Costa County

For information about child care in Contra Costa County, call the Contra Costa Child Care Council at 510-676-5442.



Slots

- 11,297 slots in 1,483 licensed family child care homes
- 20,342 slots in 335 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of all slots in licensed family child care homes, 84% accept children full time and part time; 10% accept children full time only; 6% accept children part time only.
- Of all slots in licensed child care centers, 67% accept children full time and part time; 4% accept children full time only; and 29% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 50% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 20% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 62% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 47% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (83%) and school/training (7%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 41%; preschool care: 40%; school-age care: 20%

Family child care homes: 85%; child care centers: 47%; in-home care: 4%; other: 2%

Child care near their home: 83%; near their place of work, school, or training: 10%; near the child's school: 4%; other location/no preference: 12%

Full-time care: 64%; part-time care: 36%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 70%; part-time care: 31%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 4%; before- and/or after-school care: 15%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 1% by Spanish-speaking providers; less than 1% by Chinese-, Tagalog-speaking providers; none by Korean- or Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English; 10%, Spanish; 2%, Tagalog; 1%, Chinese; less than 1%, Vietnamese; none, Korean. 4% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 99% have providers who speak English; 4%, Spanish; less than 1%, Chinese. None have providers who speak Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 1% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Del Norte County

"Although we have no public transportation, we do have a public on-call van service. Some parents must rely on the service to get their children to child care providers and from after-school care."

Located in the northwest corner of the state, Del Norte is home to primarily middle- and lower-income families. Much of the population is concentrated in the coastal city of Crescent City.

The largest employers in the county—Pelican Bay State Penitentiary and the Sutter Coast Hospital—both operate around the clock. As a result there is an unusually high need for child care providers who offer flexible schedules to cover parents' off-hour and late night work shifts.

Del Norte Child Care Council (DNCCC), the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, provides ongoing advocacy for families and children. Recently, the Child Care Council received a grant from the Department of Social Services to begin a new family preservation and family support program. The program will serve teen parents of children up to three years old in Del Norte County.

The demand for after-school care in the county, measured in an independent survey conducted by the Del Norte Child Care Council, led to the establishment of two after-school care programs which are beginning to address the child care needs of school-age children in the county.

Located in downtown Crescent City, the Del Norte Child Care Council works hard to be accessible to families. "We've been around for a while and we're well established; people know that we're here. As a result, parents contact us about a lot more than just child care. We've become a clearinghouse for information on children's issues and tend to be the first organization that people call about anything related to children."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 33,330 residents, including 7,252 (22%) children under the age of 14; 4,264 (13%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 870 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 923 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 25% (1,793) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 87%; Spanish: 8%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 14 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 40% of children 5 years and younger, and 59% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 1,254 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 640 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 2,415 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 483 are in child care outside the family.
- 76% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 24% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

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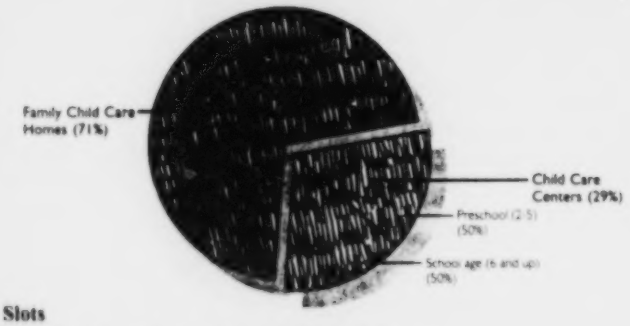
Child Care Capacity in Del Norte County

For information about child care in Del Norte County, call Del Norte Child Care Council at 707-464-8311.



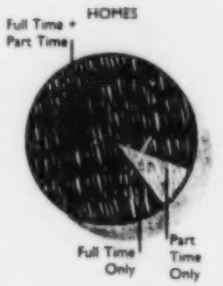
Slots

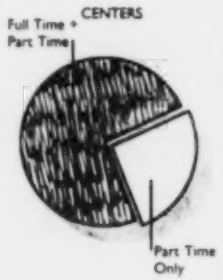
- 400 slots in 49 licensed family child care homes
- 161 slots in 6 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 83% accept children full time and part time; 8% accept children full time only; 9% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 74% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 26% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.





- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 45% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 92% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 67% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 98% of providers speak English; 8%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 4% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (67%), back-up care (21%), and other parent needs (21%). Other reasons include: school/training and referred by CPS or other professional.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 20%; preschool care: 42%; school-age care: 38%

Family child care homes: 93%; child care centers: 9%; in-home care: 3%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 81%; near their place of work, school, or training: 18%; near the child's school: 14%

Full-time care: 45%; part-time care: 55%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 44%; part-time care: 56%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 27%; before- and/or after-school care: 13%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. 2% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

El Dorado County

"Our child care requests range from the needs of commuting parents to the unique needs of tourists who frequent the South Lake Tahoe region."

The Sierra Nevada mountain range runs through El Dorado County, dividing it into two separate regions. Residents of Placerville and South Lake Tahoe enjoy the benefits of living in the two incorporated cities. However, the rest of the county's population is scattered among small towns and rural communities. There is a tremendous amount of year-round tourism along the American River, in the Lake Tahoe basin, near the ski resorts, and near the Nevada state line, with its casinos and show rooms.

One of the biggest child care issues in El Dorado is the need for more infant spaces, especially part time. "Our biggest request is for part-time infant care," say staff members of Choices For Children, the resource and referral (R&R) agency for Alpine and El Dorado Counties. Another issue is "the lack of special schedule care—evenings, weekends, and overnight. There are a few providers who offer this type of care, but not very many."

El Dorado County also has a high demand for part-time and drop-in care. "There are a lot of people who are self-employed and they occasionally need drop-in care due to the demands of their businesses. Drop-in care in the Tahoe area is especially high because of the year-round tourism." Another direct result of the tourism industry is that the Tahoe Basin's R&R staff receive national and international requests for child care referrals and information.

Geography has a strong impact on parents' child care choices. "Pockets of the county are very isolated. In those areas we see neighbors relying on neighbors rather than licensed child care. It's frustrating when a parent calls from one of the more rural areas of the county and wants infant care, but the only openings available are for 3 to 5 year olds. Often these parents work close to home. It's hard to give the name of even one provider who matches the parents' needs, let alone three or four." Conversely, child care matches are easily found in the more populated areas and child care for preschoolers is fairly easily met.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 157,448 residents, including 33,415 (21%) children under the age of 14; 19,191 (12%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 1,439 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 1,890 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 10% (3,329) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 92%; Spanish: 5%; Tagalog: 1%. 2% of residents speak at least one of 18 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 51% of children 5 years and younger, and 62% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 7,166 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 3,655 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 11,986 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 2,397 are in child care outside the family.
- 79% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 21% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $119/week or $6,188 annually (60% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $90/week or $4,680 annually (45% of minimum wage)

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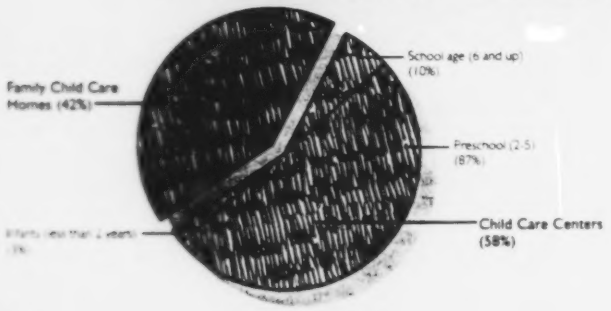
Child Care Capacity in El Dorado County

For information about child care in El Dorado County, call Choices For Children at 916-676-0707 (in Shingle Springs) or 916-541-5848 (in South Lake Tahoe).



Slots

- 1,548 slots in 189 licensed family child care homes
- 2,101 slots in 52 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 86% accept children full time and part time; 9% accept children full time only; 5% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 84% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 16% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 21% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 55% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 13% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 51% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (77%), other parent needs (14%), and school/training (5%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, and child enrichment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 35%; preschool care: 45%; school-age care: 19%

Family child care homes: 88%; child care centers: 44%; in-home care: 7%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 87%; near their place of work, school, or training: 10%; near the child's school: 2%; other location/no preference: 10%

Full-time care: 34%; part-time care: 69%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 35%; part-time care: 67%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 13%; before- and/or after-school care: 7%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 8%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 3% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 18%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 5% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Fresno County

"We get a lot of calls from grandparents who find themselves raising their grandchildren. They're overwhelmed now that they are raising another family. They call us to find out about everything from child care to immunizations. They need guidance and support because things are very different now than when they raised their own children."

Located in the San Joaquin Valley, Fresno County is a mixture of urban and rural areas. The larger communities of Fresno and Clovis are situated on the east side of the county, and the majority of the county's population lives in these metropolitan areas. Further out from the cities are more isolated rural areas where child care is often less accessible. Staff members at the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, Central Valley Children's Services Network (CSN), speculate that, as a result of the tremendous growth in the areas, "commuting is going to become a way of life for a lot of people" for the next couple of years.

Almost a quarter of the county lives below poverty level, resulting in a large number of requests for subsidized care. As a result, it is often difficult to find good-quality programs that fit parent budgets.

In recent years the R&R has taken on tasks and programs that don't have to do with child care, but have a lot to do with taking care of families—providing clothing, shoes, or food at low prices. "Whatever a family needs, we're willing to do for them, or at least hook them up to resources that can meet their needs."

It is still relatively inexpensive to live in Fresno County. The R&R hears from parents who commute as far as San Francisco and Stockton. But there is a lack of child care out in the rural areas. "Most of our providers are located in the metropolitan areas, so people out in the rural areas have almost no one to choose from." For infants and school-age children, lack of transportation can be a major obstacle to finding care. Many providers do not pick up children, so parents without cars, access to public transportation, or school busing services often find their child care choices very limited.

CSN's staff has a hard time finding facilities that will take various age groups for families with children of mixed ages, and there is a lack of child care slots for infants county wide.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 830,927 residents, including 210,848 (25%) children under the age of 14; 84,706 (10%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 32,707 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 35,251 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 32% (67,958) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 65%; Spanish: 26%. 9% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 42% of children 5 years and younger, and 53% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 39,117 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 19,949 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 62,306 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 12,461 are in child care outside the family.
- 82% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 18% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $126/week or $6,552 annually (63% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $94/week or $4,888 annually (47% of minimum wage)

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Child Care Capacity in Fresno County

For information about child care in Fresno County, call Central Valley Children's Services Network at 209-456-1100.

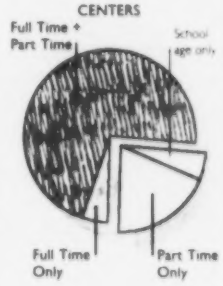
Slots

- 4,848 slots in 729 licensed family child care homes
- 10,256 slots in 165 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 69% accept children full time and part time; 29% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 72% accept children full time and part time; 5% accept children full time only; and 24% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 21% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 23% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 55% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, less than 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 37% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (80%) and school/training (12%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 44%; preschool care: 37%; school-age care: 20%

Family child care homes: 78%; child care centers: 17%; in-home care: 2%; other: 4%

Child care near their home: close to 100%

Full-time care: 60%; part-time care: 45%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 62%; part-time care: 44%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 9%; before- and/or after-school care: 13%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 3% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 8%, Spanish; less than 1%, Vietnamese. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, or Korean. 1% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 9%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. Less than 1% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Glenn County

"The hardest calls for us are ones where a parent has found a job, and then the inability to find appropriate child care stands in the way of her employment. For example, a mom called who had three kids under the age of six. She moved up here and got a job, but it was swing shift. We didn't have a lot to offer her."

The communities of rural Glenn County are small and spread apart, making it a challenge for some residents to reach services, including child care.

Like larger counties, the most pressing child care issues are the lack of infant care and options for school-age care, and the needs of parents who work nontraditional hours. Staff members at Valley Oak Children's Services, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, note that the number of requests for infant care referrals has increased in recent years.

"There's a big need for school-age care and we don't have a lot of providers who offer it. School-age care is usually required between 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. and it involves transportation. It's a hard service for providers to offer because it's not cost-effective for them. It's really hard economically for a family day care provider to have more than one or two school-age kids mixed in with their full-time load."

As more and more parents enter industries such as health care or manufacturing with unusual schedules they need child care during unusual hours, such as graveyard shifts and weekends, when few providers want to work.

There is also a growing need for Spanish-speaking providers in Glenn County. "We have a large Hispanic population, but not many licensed providers speak Spanish. Recently a mom called who didn't speak much English. She needed part-time care and that's really hard to find when you're looking for a provider who also speaks Spanish. We were able to find some providers for her, but they were a long distance from where she lived."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 28,508 residents, including 6,860 (24%) children under the age of 14; 3,863 (14%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 776 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 1,003 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 26% (1,779) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 78%; Spanish: 17%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 11 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 43% of children 5 years and younger, and 56% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 1,191 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 607 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 2,262 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 452 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

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Child Care Capacity in Glenn County

For information about child care in Glenn County, call Valley Oak Children's Services at 800-345-8627.

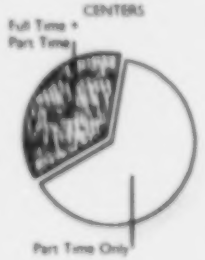
Slots

- 336 slots in 46 licensed family child care homes
- 228 slots in 9 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 85% accept children full time and part time; 5% accept children full time only; 10% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 36% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 64% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.



- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 6% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 47% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 11% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 97% of providers speak English; 3%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 89%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (90%) and school/training (10%). Other reasons include: seeking employment and child enrichment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 38%; preschool care: 44%; school-age care: 18%

Family child care homes: 94%; child care centers: 58%; in-home care: 12%; other: 18%

Child care near their home: 98%; near their place of work, school, or training: 32%

Full-time care: 60%; part-time care: 46%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 54%; part-time care: 54%

Before- and/or after-school care: 2%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. 3% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1998) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Humboldt County

Located along the northern California coast, rural Humboldt County has long depended on lumber and fishing to fuel its economy. With both industries on the decline, however, Humboldt residents are turning to jobs in the small business and service sectors. The state university and county government also provide a major source of employment.

For Humboldt's families, finding infant care, school-age care, and care during weekend and evening hours are the greatest challenges; there is a relative abundance of preschool care. Humboldt Child Care Council, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, partially attributes the demand for infant care to a sharp decline in the number of providers who serve infants exclusively. High costs and a shift of some state funds have moved some infant care providers in other directions.

Most parents seek child care for reasons of employment, school, or training. With a large student population, the need for part-time care is high. The Humboldt Child Care Council also works with many parents who are barely making ends meet. For these parents, there is rarely much money left over to pay for child care and the demand for assistance is great.

The R&R works hard to serve not just the child care needs of the child, but the diverse needs of the entire family—from helping parents find counseling, to offering home visiting services to teen mothers and families at risk, to providing innovative drop-in play centers that bring parents and children throughout the region together.

"The drop-in play centers have been a great success and continue to expand. The centers provide children with a safe, warm play area and provide parents a chance to get together and get to know each other, which is particularly beneficial for those living in our many remote areas."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 133,252 residents, including 27,674 (21%) children under the age of 14, 16,447 (12%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 3,037 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 3,344 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 23% (6,381) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 94%; Spanish: 2%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 18 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 48% of children 5 years and younger, and 60% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 5,555 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 2,833 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 9,561 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 1,912 are in child care outside the family.
- 77% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 23% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $111/week or $5,772 annually (56% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $80/week or $4,160 annually (40% of minimum wage)

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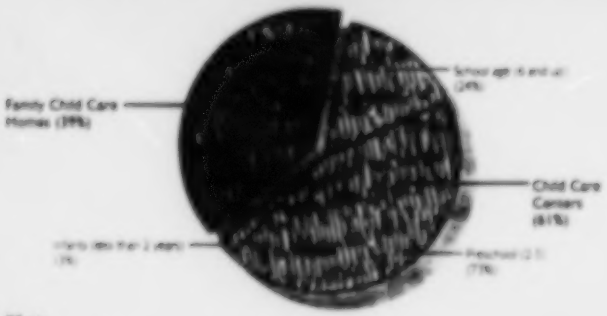
Child Care Capacity in Humboldt County

For information about child care in Humboldt County, call the Humboldt Child Care Council at 707-444-8293.



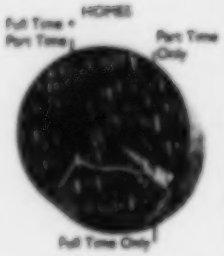
Slots

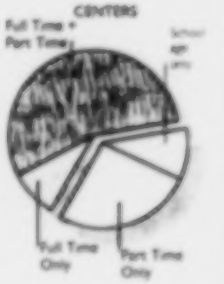
- 1,356 slots in 175 licensed family child care homes
- 2,144 slots in 65 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 93% accept children full time and part time; 3% accept children full time only; 4% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 55% accept children full time and part time; 9% accept children full time only; and 36% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 27% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 40% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 90% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 53% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (64%), school/training (12%), and other parent needs (10%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, and child enrichment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 37%; preschool care: 45%; school-age care: 23%

Family child care homes: 78%; child care centers: 16%; in-home care: 18%

Child care near their home: 75%; near their place of work, school, or training: 9%; near the child's school: 6%; other location/no preference: 16%

Full-time care: 36%; part-time care: 64%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 37%; part-time care: 63%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 17%; before- and/or after-school care: 9%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English, 6% speak Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 15%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 11% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county, it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Imperial County

"The Children's Fair has really helped to bring our community together. Now in its eighteenth year, the fair attracts families from all parts of the county. We feature children's entertainment... family services agencies set up information booths... and people have a great time."

Families of Imperial County, located in the southwest corner of California, are served by Imperial County Child Development Services, the region's resource and referral (R&R) agency. Since its founding in 1980, the agency has grown in size and scope with programs that emphasize provider training and outreach, parent education, and community and family agency collaborations.

"We're still feeling the effects of the recession," say staff members at the R&R. "With a large migrant worker population and high unemployment, many families naturally gravitate toward license-exempt providers—a family member or a neighbor. It's up to us to educate parents about the developmental periods in a child's life and about the benefits that licensed care offers. At the same time, we actively encourage providers to become licensed and to participate in our training and workshops on a regular basis."

Serving the remote and more economically troubled communities in the northern part of the county and meeting the infant care needs of the growing number of teenage mothers are also priorities for the R&R. Other challenges include meeting the tremendous increase in need for respite care, helping parents who work nontraditional hours at hospitals find suitable child care, and assisting families with transportation-related problems. Imperial County is served by a dial-a-ride program that operates limited hours and trips per day, but few providers offer transportation.

On a positive note, the San Pasqual reservation recently constructed a new casino and child care center for employees, creating the second employer-sponsored center in the county.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 140,594 residents, including 37,775 (27%) children under the age of 14; 14,333 (10%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 5,130 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 6,567 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 31% (11,697) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- Spanish: 62%; English: 36%. 2% of residents speak at least one of 17 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 43% of children 5 years and younger, and 48% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 6,716 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 3,425 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 10,591 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 2,118 are in child care outside the family.
- 77% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 23% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $87/week or $4,524 annually (44% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $74/week or $3,848 annually (37% of minimum wage)

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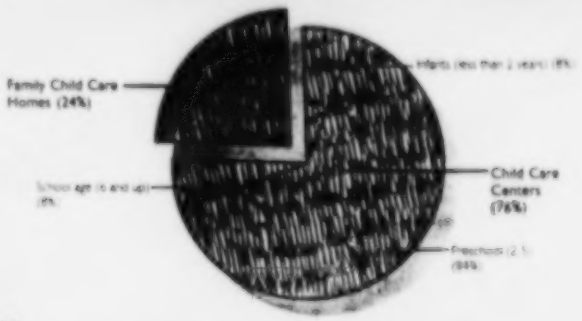
Child Care Capacity in Imperial County

For information about child care in Imperial County, call Imperial County Child Development Services at 619-339-6431.



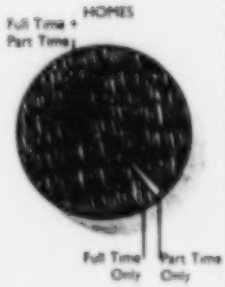
Slots

- 642 slots in 79 licensed family child care homes
- 2,016 slots in 53 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 94% accept children full time and part time; 4% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 66% accept children full time and part time; 7% accept children full time only; and 28% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 49% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 90% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 6% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 25% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (68%), school/training (46%), and child enrichment (6%). Other reasons include seeking employment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 21%; preschool care: 57%; school-age care: 22%

Family child care homes: 16%; child care centers: 73%; in-home care: 12%

Child care near their home: 77%; near their place of work, school, or training: 24%; near the child's school: 1%

Full-time care: 53%; part-time care: 47%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 61%; part-time care: 39%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 12%; before- and/or after-school care: 10%

76% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 24% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 90% of providers speak English; 76%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 89%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Inyo County

Boasting the nation's highest peak, Mt. Whitney, and its lowest point, Death Valley, Inyo is the second largest county, geographically, in California. Inyo's diverse geography is complemented by its people, many of whom are attracted to the rugged terrain and beauty of the region. Inyo County is home to six Native American tribes: Bishop Paiute, Big Pine Paiute, Fort Independence Paiute Shoshone, Owens Valley Paiute, Lone Pine Paiute, and Death Valley Timbisha Shoshone.

The county's largest population center is Bishop, home to approximately 10,000 of the county's 18,000 people. The area's primary employment source is the Department of Water and Power. Health care, the utility and telephone companies, education, government, Caltrans and the U.S. Forest Service are also major employers. Service industries, such as tourism-related businesses and fast food chains, also employ many county residents. Both industries are largely minimum wage employers, require odd-hour and weekend shifts, and create a high demand for flexible child care.

Child care needs are also great in many outlying areas of the county, and there is an ongoing need to recruit people into the family child care profession. Child Care Connection, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, works hard to attract quality caregivers, to encourage license-exempt providers to become licensed, and to provide families in more remote communities with parenting information and resources. Staff members at the R&R make regular visits to remote areas of Lone Pine and Death Valley, and have established a toll-free number for use by parents in need of child care.

"Trying to find evening and weekend care is the greatest challenge. And we're constantly trying to recruit people to become licensed family child care providers."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 19,509 residents, including 3,776 (19%) children under the age of 14; 3,636 (19%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 312 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 340 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 17% (652) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 92%, Spanish: 5%, 3% of residents speak at least one of 13 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 52% of children 5 years and younger, and 63% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 805 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 411 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 1,407 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 281 are in child care outside the family.
- 84% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 16% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $144 week or $7,488 annually (72% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $8[illegible] week or $4,628 annually (45% of minimum wage)

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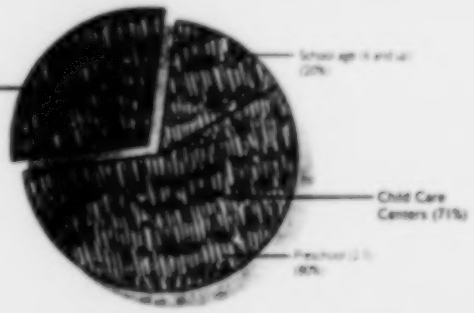
Child Care Capacity in Inyo County

For information on child care in Inyo County, call Child Care Connection at 619-873-5123.



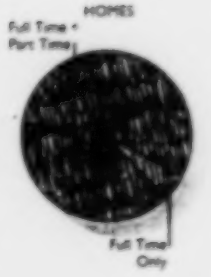
Slots

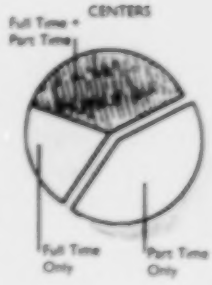
- 120 slots in 19 licensed family child care homes
- 288 slots in 10 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 95% accept children full time and part time; 5% accept children full time only. None accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 37% accept children full time and part time; 21% accept children full time only; and 42% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 21% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 84% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 7% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 43% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, the one most often cited is employment (90%). Other reasons include: school training and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 31%; preschool care: 43%; school-age care: 25%

Family child care homes: 87%; child care centers: 35%; in-home care: 4%

Child care near their home: 73%; near their place of work, school, or training: 29%; near the child's school: 2%

Full-time care: 41%; part-time care: 59%

For children under six years old; full-time care: 32%; part-time care: 68%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 10%

97% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 3% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 5%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 5% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English, 21%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Kern County

"State Farm recently opened up a regional office here and directed their employees to us. We received many calls from parents planning their move. In the past, housing has been their one and only concern, but we've seen a real change for the better over the years. People are concerned about child care and ask a lot of questions."

Divided by mountains, Kern County has farmland in the west and desert in the east. Its economy is driven by agriculture and, particularly in the Taft area, by the oil industry. With farm work and commutes to oil fields beginning as early as 5:30 a.m., some parents have difficulty making child care arrangements.

Like many counties, finding child care in Kern often depends on the age of the child, the work schedule of the parents, and the location of the family's home. According to Community Connection for Child Care, Kern County's resource and referral (R&R) agency, finding care for children ages 3 and 4, even part-time, is much easier than finding school-age or infant care. While the needs in Bakersfield, the county's main population center, are largely met, there are areas in the county with gaps in after-school programs and areas with no nighttime or weekend care.

Staff members also note that transportation is an issue for many low-income parents. Without a vehicle or a strong transit system, parents seek child care close to home or near bus stops.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 688,607 residents, including 177,742 (26%) children under the age of 14; 66,855 (10%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 21,335 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 22,198 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 24% (43,533) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 75%; Spanish: 21%; Tagalog: 1%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 47% of children 5 years and younger, and 57% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 37,429 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 19,089 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 56,128 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 11,226 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $135/week or $7,020 annually (68% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $98/week or $5,096 annually (49% of minimum wage)

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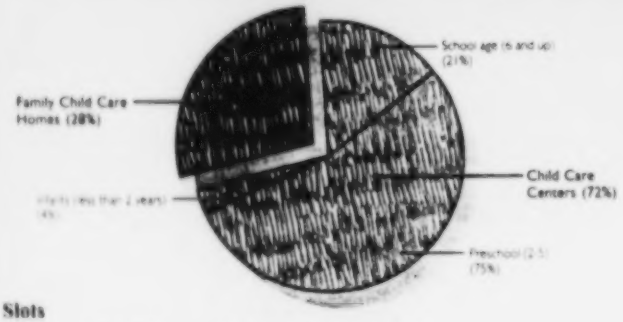
Child Care Capacity in Kern County

For information about child care in Kern County, call Community Connection for Child Care at 805-861-5200.



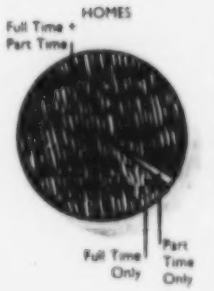
Slots

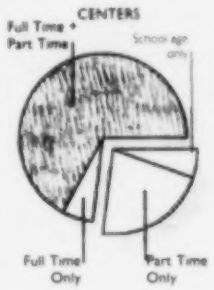
- 3,750 slots in 535 licensed family child care homes
- 9,683 slots in 170 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 91% accept children full time and part time; 7% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 66% accept children full time and part time; 6% accept children full time only; and 27% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 20% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 23% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 65% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 41% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (77%) and school/training (19%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, back-up care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 30%; preschool care: 45%; school-age care: 26%

Family child care homes: 93%; child care centers: 67%; in-home care: less than 1%; other: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 99%; near their place of work, school, or training: 7%; near the child's school: 1%

Full-time care: 72%; part-time care: 29%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 73%; part-time care: 27%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 13%; before- and/or after-school care: 7%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 1% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English; 8%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 2% of providers speak other languages.

  Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 99% have providers who speak English; 34%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. Less than 1% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Kings County

"Kings County is situated between Fresno and Tulare counties, bordered by San Luis Obispo and Kern counties. We are very rural and very spread out," says the staff of Kings County Community Action Organization, the county resource and referral (R&R) agency. Most of the population is centered in Hanford, the county seat, with small towns sprinkled throughout the rest of the county.

Because towns tend to be spread far apart, it can be difficult for the R&R to give referrals to providers near parents' homes or work places. Transportation is another obstacle to finding care, as most providers do not pick up children.

Kings County is home to two state prisons. Parents who work at the prisons, especially single parents, have difficulty securing child care during their late-night shifts.

Other employment in the county includes "big box" retailers like Wal-Mart and agricultural work. Because these industries pay minimum wage or relatively low wages, there is a significant need for subsidized child care services.

Other child care issues in the county are the lack of affordable child care and a shortage of child care centers and infant care. Parents may be especially selective when choosing infant care providers, limiting their choices even further.

"If you have a single parent working an evening or a night shift, it's really hard to find child care for her. Sometimes she can get a provider to watch the child until seven or seven-thirty, and then have a friend take over for the rest of the night. But it's hard on the parent and the child to split things up like that, and no providers do late-night care."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 119,922 residents, including 29,896 (25%) children under the age of 14; 9,218 (8%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 3,962 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 4,067 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 27% (8,029) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 69%; Spanish: 25%; Tagalog: 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 16 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 44% of children 5 years and younger, and 55% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 5,997 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 3,059 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 9,026 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 1,805 are in child care outside the family.
- 78% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 22% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $65 week or $3,380 annually (33% of minimum wage)

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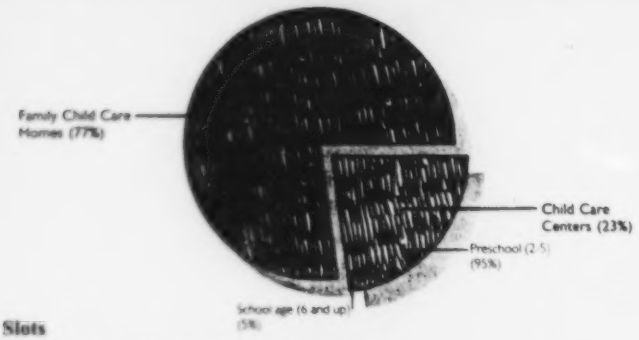
Child Care Capacity in Kings County

For information about child care in Kings County, call Kings County Community Action Organization at 209-582-4386.



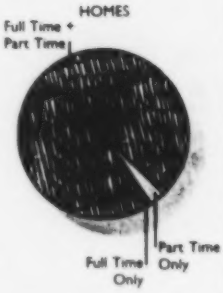
Slots

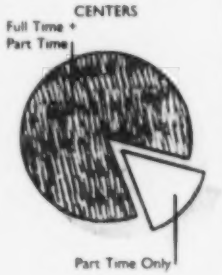
- 1,044 slots in 135 licensed family child care homes
- 304 slots in 8 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 96% accept children full time and part time; 1% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 85% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 15% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 29% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 33% offer before- and or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (65%), school/training (23%), and seeking employment (9%). Other reasons include other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 29%; preschool care: 42%; school-age care: 29%

Family child care homes: 98%; child care centers: 7%

Child care near their home: 83%; near their place of work, school, or training: 51%; near the child's school: 10%

Full-time care: 70%; part-time care: 45%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 71%; part-time care: 38%

Before- and/or after-school care: 5%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 3%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 22%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Lake County

"Child care is a complex economic issue, and now welfare reform is really going to affect Lake County. GAIN is bringing 400 parents into the workforce, but even if those people find work it will likely be at low-income jobs, and we don't have the hundreds of spaces that the children of these parents will require, let alone affordable spaces."

Lake County's beautiful rural setting and affordable housing have become very attractive in recent years and, as new residents move in, the county has seen tremendous growth. Staff of North Coast Opportunities —Rural Communities Child Care, the local resource and referral (R&R) agency, worry that the child care supply cannot keep up with the increased demand.

"We have natural beauty that draws people, and our housing costs are considered affordable, but we do not have jobs that pay well enough to support people. We have a *lot* of part-time work," says R&R staff. Also, a sizeable portion of the county's economy is derived from the tourist industry, so often work is seasonal. As a result, the community has a large need for subsidized care.

While Clear Lake's beauty attracts residents and tourists, its location at the center of the county makes it difficult for residents to get from one community to another and to access public services. The lake separates the two largest towns in the county, Clearlake and Lakeport, and makes transportation a crucial issue which, in turn, makes child care that much more difficult to access. The large geographic area of the county also affects parents' ability to find quality, affordable child care near their homes. As a result, child care choices may be limited. The transportation problems in Lake County particularly impact the already short supply of school-age care. "Only two towns offer things for older kids to do after school, but there's not enough transportation to get them there."

Recently the county has seen a boom in casinos on the geographically-isolated rancherias (reservations) in the county. With the growth of this industry there are new child care needs, including increased demand for 24-hour child care. The rancherias have asked the R&R for help in developing the child care supply.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 61,400 residents, including 11,709 (19%) children under the age of 14; 13,938 (23%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 1,227 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 1,453 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 23% (2,680) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 92%; Spanish: 5%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 18 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 43% of children 5 years and younger, and 55% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 2,095 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 1,068 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 3,752 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 750 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $107/week or $5,564 annually (54% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $80/week or $4,160 annually (40% of minimum wage)

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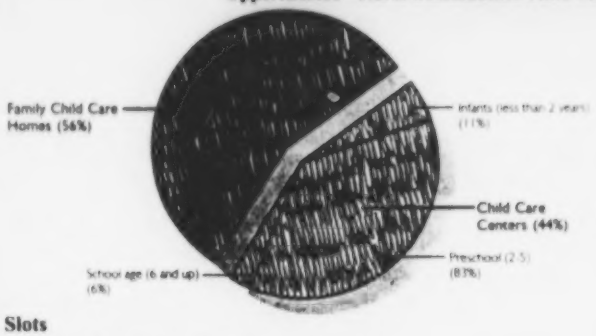
Child Care Capacity in Lake County

For information about child care in Lake County, call North Coast Opportunities—Rural Communities Child Care at 707-462-1954.



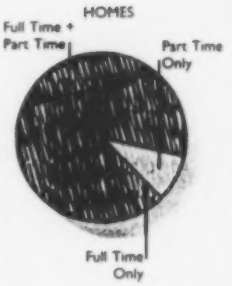
Slots

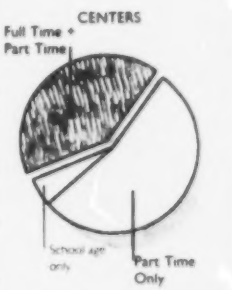
- 616 slots in 76 licensed family child care homes
- 482 slots in 19 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 86% accept children full time and part time; 5% accept children full time only; 9% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 41% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 59% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 9% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.





- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 32% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 87% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 9% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 48% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (64%), referred by CPS or other professional (17%), and school/training (9%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 27%; preschool care: 48%; school-age care: 25%

Family child care homes: 93%; child care centers: 14%; other: 4%

Child care near their home: 70%; near their place of work, school, or training: 32%; near the child's school: 5%

Full-time care: 37%; part-time care: 65%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 39%; part-time care: 63%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 24%; before- and/or after-school care: 15%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 1% by Spanish-speaking providers; and 1% by Chinese-speaking providers. None requested care by Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 5%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 4% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 30%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Lassen County

Like the Lassen County population, requests for child care resources and referrals are heavily concentrated in the city of Susanville. Many towns in the outlying area are so small that people know providers personally, reducing the need for referrals.

The largest employers in Lassen County are government agencies and the two prisons. Generally, people seek care during fairly standard hours and, unlike many counties, the demand for flexible care is not overwhelming. The need for child care subsidies is, however, an issue for some parents, many of whom are surprised to find long waiting lists.

The overriding child care issue in Lassen County is the need for more providers. Staff members at Lassen Child & Family Resources, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, work hard to attract potential providers through orientations and advertising, but the numbers of people who actually open up shop is low and the demand for more options remains high. There are no infant care centers, for example, in Lassen County.

The county's small size does have its advantages; the R&R staff is able to work very closely with parents, and to develop strong relationships with providers and community care licensing program analysts.

"Parents we serve are so grateful for the information and services we provide. We work hard to give them as much time as they need and help them through the process. We also encourage parents to spend as much time as possible with the provider before going back to work. They feel more comfortable and it really helps in the long run."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 33,758 residents, including 6,676 (20%) children under the age of 14; 3,488 (10%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 654 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 547 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 18% (1,201) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 89%; Spanish: 8%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 12 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 40% of children 5 years and younger, and 55% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 1,139 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 581 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 2,109 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 422 are in child care outside the family.
- 78% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 22% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2-5 years old in a licensed child care center: $80/week or $4,160 annually (40% of minimum wage)

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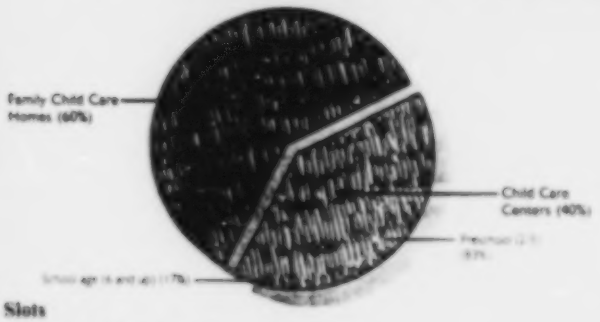
Child Care Capacity in Lassen County

For information about child care in Lassen County, call Lassen Child & Family Resources at 916-257-9781.



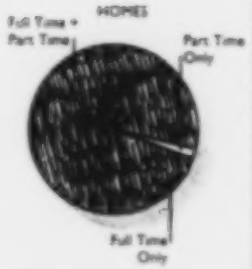
Slots

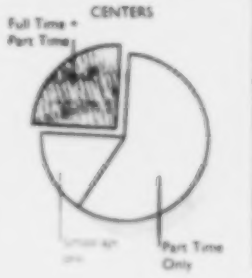
- 276 slots in 38 licensed family child care homes
- 181 slots in 8 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 87% accept children full time and part time; 11% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 25% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 75% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 22% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 50% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 71% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 11% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (85%) and school/training (19%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, back-up care, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 21%; preschool care: 61%; school-age care: 19%

Family child care homes: 90%; child care centers: 18%; in-home care: 3%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 77%; near their place of work, school, or training: 37%; near the child's school: 11%

Full-time care: 51%; part-time care: 64%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 52%; part-time care: 64%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 7%; before- and/or after-school care: 13%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 8% Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 8% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Los Angeles County

"This is such a metropolis. We do multifaceted work with a multifaceted community."

If Los Angeles County could be described in one word, that word would be *diversity*. Throughout the county, housing projects border affluent suburbs that adjoin blue collar neighborhoods. And growing immigrant populations speak a rich array of languages in homes from the San Fernando Valley to the Santa Monica beach, from South Central to East Los Angeles to the Antelope Valley.

In a region as large as Los Angeles, there is a tremendous need for child care for all ages and families of all incomes. Located throughout the vast county are ten separate resource and referral (R&R) agencies, each working to meet the diverse needs of the hundreds of thousands of families they serve.

An issue common to R&Rs throughout the region is the increasing demand for subsidized child care. In Los Angeles County, one of every six residents is on welfare, and many families are struggling to make ends meet on low wages paid by service industry, part-time, and minimum wage jobs.

Another common issue for many families is the commute; freeways are a way of life for most Southern Californians. Long commutes in turn affect parents' search for child care. Many parents travel through the territories of several R&R agencies on their way to work, looking for the most appropriate care along the route.

To meet the needs of the various communities, the county's R&Rs work with a growing number of bi- and tri-lingual providers, promoting greater understanding among diverse cultures by holding special workshops for providers and the families they serve. Each R&R has a large service area and each works with parents from a variety of economic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds who are united in their need for quality, affordable child care.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 9,636,490 residents, including 2,020,265 (21%) children under the age of 14; 932,676 (10%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 203,117 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 229,889 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 21% (433,006) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 55%; Spanish: 32%; Chinese: 3%; Tagalog, Korean: 2%; Vietnamese: 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 50% of children 5 years and younger, and 56% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 474,363 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 241,925 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 602,520 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 120,504 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $127 week or $6,604 annually (64% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $89 week or $4,628 annually (45% of minimum wage)

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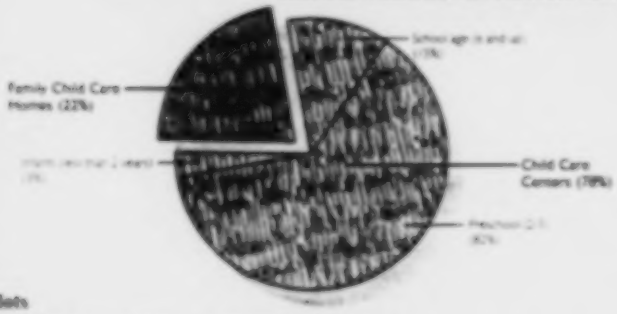
Child Care Capacity in Los Angeles County

For more information about child care in Los Angeles County, call the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network at 213-427-2755.



Slots

- 38,704 slots in 4,833 licensed family child care homes
- 137,650 slots in 2,134 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 74% accept children full time and part time; 15% accept children full time only; 12% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 61% accept children full time and part time; 13% accept children full time only; and 26% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 16% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.

- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 41% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 56% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 36% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (78%), school/training (11%), and child enrichment (5%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 31%; preschool care: 51%; school-age care: 17%

Family child care homes: 64%; child care centers: 61%; in-home care: 3%; other: 3%

Child care near their home: 85%; near their place of work, school, or training: 13%; near the child's school: 6%

Full-time care: 77%; part-time care: 28%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 81%; part-time care: 23%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 6%; before- and/or after-school care: 10%

97% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 11% by Spanish-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

In licensed family child care homes 95% of providers speak English; 29%, Spanish; 2%, Chinese; 1%, Tagalog, Korean, and less than 1%, Vietnamese. 12% of providers speak other languages.

Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers close to 100% of providers speak English; 55%, Spanish; 3%, Chinese; 2%, Tagalog, Korean, and 1%, Vietnamese. 8% have providers who speak other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Madera County

"We worked with a woman whose baby was due in six weeks. She didn't know if she could afford child care and was trying to evaluate whether it was worth going back to work. If she didn't go to work, she'd consider becoming a licensed provider. We encourage people if they express an interest, but we also let them know that it's very hard work."

The Central Valley's Madera County is primarily rural and its economy is largely dependent on agriculture. Like most rural areas, the county is without a strong public transportation system and getting around is a challenge for some families.

Many of the county's agricultural workers are monolingual, Spanish-speaking families who, because of cost and language barriers, do not often seek out child care. In addition, low wages, which are typical of agricultural communities, mean that many families must rely upon subsidized care, for which demand is always high.

While most of the county is located in the valley, Madera's boundaries also include the mountainous and remote eastern region. For staff at the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, Madera County Action Committee, serving this area is often a challenge: isolation combined with a lack of licensed family child care homes or child care centers leaves families with few options.

R&R staff help parents look at *all* child care options—including the benefits of becoming licensed providers themselves.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 118,544 residents, including 29,576 (25%) children under the age of 14; 14,427 (12%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 3,303 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 4,130 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 25% (7,433) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 70%; Spanish: 26%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 18 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 46% of children 5 years and younger, and 58% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 5,617 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 2,865 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 10,009 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 2,002 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $80/week or $4,160 annually (40% of minimum wage)

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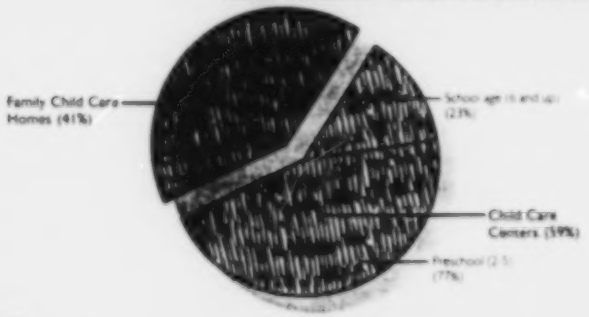
Child Care Capacity in Madera County

For more information about child care in Madera County, call the Madera County Action Committee—Resource & Referral at 209-675-8469.



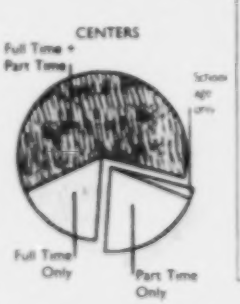
Slots

- 1,020 slots in 133 licensed family child care homes
- 1,468 slots in 28 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 88% accept children full time and part time; 9% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 61% accept children full time and part time; 17% accept children full time only; and 22% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 9% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 36% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 83% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 43% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (83%) and school/training (12%). Other reasons include: seeking employment and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 29%; preschool care: 43%; school-age care: 27%

Family child care homes: 99%; child care centers: 65%

Child care near their home: 98%; near their place of work, school, or training: 8%

Full-time care: 76%; part-time care: 24%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 74%; part-time care: 26%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 8%; before- and/or after-school care: 8%

92% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 13% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 98% of providers speak English; 17%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- In licensed child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 68%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Marin County

"The monthly cost of child care can equal 50% to 75% of the low-income families' take-home pay, but providers have to charge that much to keep their businesses going."

One of the most affluent communities in the country, Marin County's high cost of living means that child care providers charge some of the highest rates in the state. While affluent families request nannies or pay for expensive center or family child care, low-income and many middle-income families find it difficult to afford any type of child care.

According to staff of Marin Child Care Council, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, a high percentage of families are looking for drop-in and part-time care. Many parents, particularly those who are self-employed, work at home, or depend on project-based employment, rely on a variety of child care arrangements in order to keep costs down. The R&R staff believes that families seeking part-time and flexible hour care may be turning to less expensive alternatives than full-time licensed child care by leaving children part time with friends or relatives. In two-parent families, parents may arrange work schedules so that they can take turns caring for the children in order to avoid child care expenses.

Another pressing child care concern in Marin County is the lack of infant and school-age care spaces, coupled with a high demand for infant care. "We have a number of family day care home providers who only do infant care, but they're all full and centers that provide infant care fill up right away."

Although nearly 75% of the parents in Marin County seek child care for employment reasons, a sizeable percentage also seek care for reasons of child enrichment—an option that middle- and low-income families often do not have.

Lack of information about child care options or cost may necessitate leaving a child with friends or family instead of a well-trained, licensed provider. "We talked to a mother who had been paying a friend $50 a week to take care of her infant. When the child started teething the friend used up an entire bottle of Baby Tylenol in a week's time. The baby is okay, but that's obviously not a very good child care situation."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 245,593 residents, including 37,558 (15%) children under the age of 14; 30,196 (12%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 1,091 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 1,242 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 6% (2,333) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 85%; Spanish: 6%; Chinese: 1%. 8% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 57% of children 5 years and younger, and 66% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 9,842 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 5,019 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 13,389 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 2,678 are in child care outside the family.
- 85% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 15% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $174/week or $9,048 annually (87% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $128/week or $6,656 annually (64% of minimum wage)

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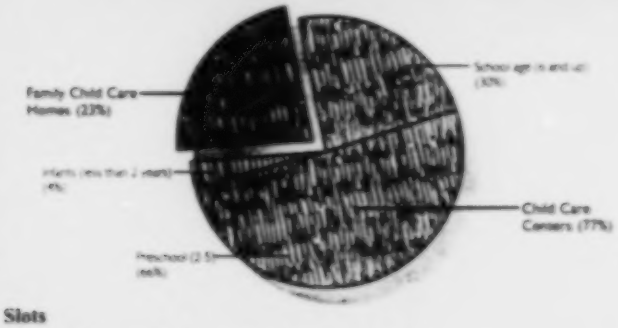
Child Care Capacity in Marin County

For information about child care in Marin County, call the Marin Child Care Council at 415-472-1092.



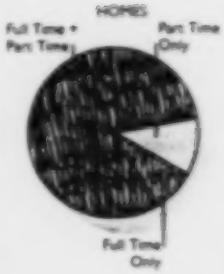
Slots

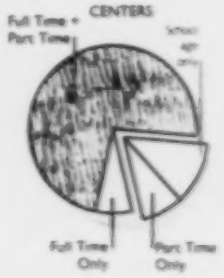
- 2267 slots in 317 licensed family child care homes
- 7,595 slots in 142 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 81% accept children full time and part time; 8% accept children full time only; 11% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 74% accept children full time and part time; 7% accept children full time only; and 20% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 60% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 36% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 51% offer before- and or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 59% offer before- and or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (74%), other parent needs (9%), and child enrichment (7%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, school/training, referred by CPS or other professional, and back-up care.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 51%; preschool care: 37%; school-age care: 12%

Family child care homes: 65%; child care centers: 59%; in-home care: 20%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 88%; near their place of work, school, or training: 17%; near the child's school: 4%

Full-time care: 49%; part-time care: 53%

For children under six years old; full-time care: 46%; part-time care: 54%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 7%; before- and/or after-school care: 4%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 5% by Spanish-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by Chinese-speaking providers. None requested care by Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English; 21%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog; less than 1%, Korean; none, Chinese or Vietnamese. 13% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 31%, Spanish; 2%, Korean, Vietnamese; 1%, Chinese; and none, Tagalog. 7% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1998) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Mariposa County

Home to Yosemite National Park, the Sierra National Forest, Lake McClure, and Badger Pass ski area, Mariposa County attracts tourists, nature lovers, and people from around the state and the nation who crave the outdoors. Most Mariposa residents are employed in tourism and agriculture, or they commute to jobs in Fresno or Merced.

"Our economy is dependent upon tourism, local recreation, and agriculture," says a staff member at the Infant/Child Enrichment Services, Mariposa's resource and referral (R&R) agency. "These are primarily low-paying, part-time jobs with irregular hours. We serve a lot of waitresses—women who work nights and need evening care for their children. Others who make the commute to Fresno or Merced have to start out as early as 5 a.m. Most providers just can't—or don't want to—offer care during these off-hours. This situation is incredibly difficult for families and for providers."

An increasing demand for infant care is also evident throughout the region, and a trend in senior citizens raising their grandchildren has created a new kind of "customer" for R&R services. Infant/Child Enrichment Services works to meet a variety of needs throughout the county, from subsidies to child care referrals, to provider training and technical services.

"We have had some amazing success stories. We recently helped one mother go through GAIN—she received technical training and is now working in telecommunications. Two other women completed beauty school and have now opened up their own shop. We're small, so we can see the successes and this brings a great deal of satisfaction."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 17,840 residents, including 3,269 (18%) children under the age of 14; 3,188 (18%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 250 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 230 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 15% (480) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 93%; Spanish: 3%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 12 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 55% of children 5 years and younger, and 56% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 765 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 390 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 1,051 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 210 are in child care outside the family.
- 84% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 16% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $60/week or $3,120 annually (30% of minimum wage)

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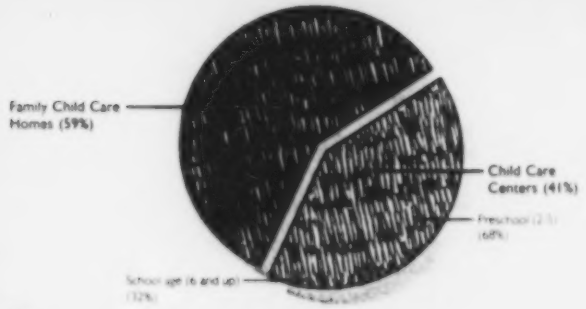
Child Care Capacity in Mariposa County

For information about child care in Mariposa County, call the Infant/Child Enrichment Services at 209-966-4474.



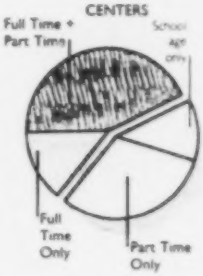
Slots

- 252 slots in 27 licensed family child care homes
- 174 slots in 6 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 95% accept children full time and part time; 5% accept children full time only. None accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 43% accept children full time and part time; 14% accept children full time only; and 44% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 28% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 19% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 85% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 50% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (77%), referred by CPS or other professional (10%), and other parent needs (8%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, school/training, and back-up care.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 34%; preschool care: 28%; school-age care: 38%

Family child care homes: 91%; child care centers: 36%; in-home care: 3%

Child care near their home: 83%; near their place of work, school, or training: 36%; near the child's school: 5%; other location/no preference: 10%

Full-time care: 43%; part-time care: 61%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 54%; part-time care: 50%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 11%; before- and/or after-school care: 11%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 11%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Mendocino County

"In a rural and depressed economic area like ours, if parents have three kids, and two of them are under age five, the school-age kid is probably the one who goes home alone. Parents can't afford to put equal priority on care for older kids."

Known throughout the state for its picturesque coastline, Mendocino County stretches far inland from the coast and encompasses a large rural area with a sparse population and depressed economy. Like Lake County, with which it shares resource and referral (R&R) services, many of Mendocino County's jobs pay lower wages. Most families live in relatively isolated areas or small towns.

The county offers a beautiful and affordable alternative to urban life, but the depressed economy forces many residents to commute long distances to work, school, services, and child care. For people in further flung regions, such as Point Arena on the coast, that can mean up to an hour-and-a-half commute in each direction to get to higher paying jobs. Unfortunately, finding a local child care provider isn't easy, according to staff of North Coast Opportunities—Rural Communities Child Care. "Sometimes people have to backtrack 10 to 15 miles to get to their child care provider."

While many families need subsidized child care, many government dollars are earmarked for specific age groups. "A lot of that money is only for three and five year olds, so we have gaps in our subsidized child care system," say R&R staff members.

In a county with a sizeable percentage of "working poor," the coastal area of Mendocino is notable for its pockets of affluence. "The coast is very unique. There's a very wealthy income group, no middle income group, and a poverty level group. To live on the coast the rent is very high, so providers have to up their rates just to stay alive." High rates in the coastal area present a problem for the low-income residents who service the more affluent members of the community.

The switch to year-round school schedules in the elementary grades has also created a child care crisis for some families. "We have parents whose kids are on different tracks. One parent has five kids. She deals with three exempt providers, a licensed provider, park and rec, and the health club for care."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 90,740 residents, including 19,524 (22%) children under the age of 14; 12,280 (14%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 1,827 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 2,223 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 21% (4,050) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 89%; Spanish: 8%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 16 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 50% of children 5 years and younger, and 66% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 3,896 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 1,987 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 7,728 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 1,546 are in child care outside the family.
- 80% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 20% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $82/week or $4,264 annually (41% of minimum wage)

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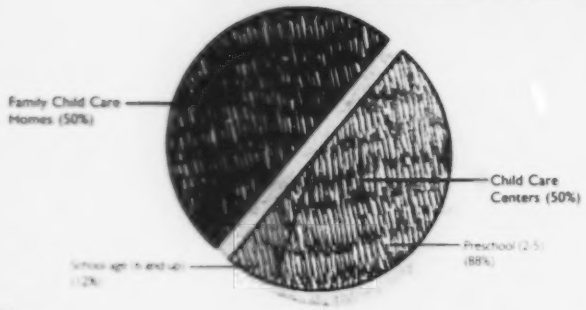
Child Care Capacity in Mendocino County

For information about child care in Mendocino County, call North Coast Opportunities—Rural Communities Child Care at 707-462-1954.



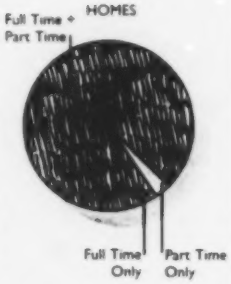
Slots

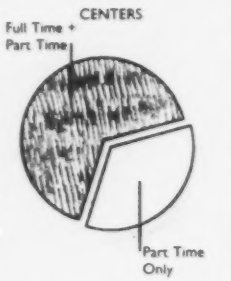
- 912 slots in 122 licensed family child care homes
- 916 slots in 30 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 93% accept children full time and part time; 3% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 66% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 34% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 20% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 77% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 49% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (79%), school/training (8%), and referred by CPS or other professional (5%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, back-up care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 29%; preschool care: 46%; school-age care: 25%

Family child care homes: 89%; child care centers: 29%; in-home care: 2%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 48%; near their place of work, school, or training: 30%; near the child's school: 6%; other location/no preference: 31%

Full-time care: 46%; part-time care: 56%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 50%; part-time care: 52%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 11%; before- and/or after-school care: 6%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 1% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

In licensed family child care homes 98% of providers speak English; 7%, Spanish; 1%, Chinese, Vietnamese; none, Tagalog or Korean. 3% of providers speak other languages.

Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 35%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Merced County

The majority of Merced County residents depend upon agriculture and related industries for their livelihood. "A lot of parents work in the cotton gins and in the food processing plants," say staff members at Children's Services Network of Merced County, Inc., the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency. "Many people we work with are in the fields during the summer months. But there is a steady need for care throughout the year because many of those parents go to school or training in the fall. Wages are low, shifts are long, and communities are quite isolated. All of these factors impact the child care situation in Merced County."

The R&R staff estimates that 60% of the Merced County population currently receive AFDC. Many are young parents struggling to finish school, get off welfare, and pay for child care. Even with relatively low child care rates, it is difficult for parents here to afford child care on a minimum wage salary.

The lack of providers who serve children with special needs and the large refugee populations are two other important child care issues in Merced County. To serve the growing immigrant community, R&R staff members speak three different Southeast Asian languages, as well as Ilacano and Spanish.

"We have a mother who works evenings at Wal-Mart, sometimes until the store closes at eleven at night. By the time she closes out the registers and drives homes, it's one in the morning. We've had a lot of trouble finding providers who will care for children that late. She's had to move from one provider to another."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 214,430 residents, including 59,318 (28%) children under the age of 14; 19,604 (9%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 8,339 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 9,290 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 30% (17,629) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 64%; Spanish: 25%. 11% of residents speak at least one of 19 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 46% of children 5 years and younger, and 54% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 12,185 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 6,214 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 17,720 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 3,544 are in child care outside the family.
- 77% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 23% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $105/week or $5,460 annually (53% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $80/week or $4,160 annually (40% of minimum wage)

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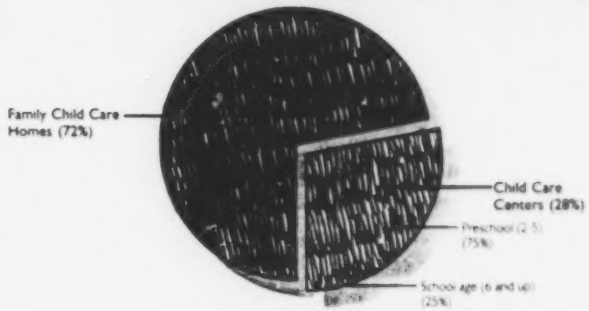
Child Care Capacity in Merced County

For information about child care in Merced County, call Children's Services Network of Merced County, Inc. at 209-722-3805.



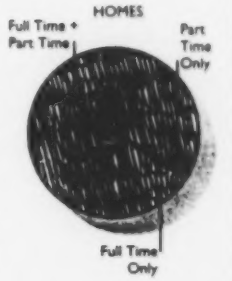
Slots

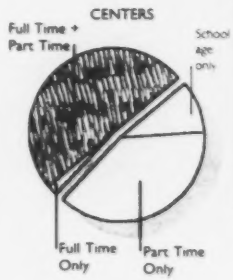
- 2,567 slots in 320 licensed family child care homes
- 1,000 slots in 21 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 91% accept children full time and part time; 9% accept children full time only; 1% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 49% accept children full time and part time; 2% accept children full time only; and 49% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 21% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 40% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 82% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 35% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (78%) and school/training (21%).

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 19%; preschool care: 63%; school-age care: 19%

Family child care homes: 95%; child care centers: 5%

Child care near their home: 61%; near their place of work, school, or training: 34%; near the child's school: 6%

Full-time care: 62%; part-time care: 38%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 74%; part-time care: 26%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 6%; before- and/or after-school care: 9%

93% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 16% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 96% of providers speak English; 25%, Spanish; less than 1%, Tagalog. None speak Chinese, Korean, or Vietnamese. 5% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 30%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Modoc County

"When we moved onto the campus of the local elementary school in 1994, we became much more accessible to parents and teachers, and increased our ability to collaborate with other organizations. This location makes it easier for us to identify problems and to find solutions—being accessible and collaborating have been key to our success."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 10,838 residents, including 2,284 (21%) children under the age of 14; 1,885 (17%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 192 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 270 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 20% (462) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 93%; Spanish: 5%. 2% of residents speak at least one of 9 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 46% of children 5 years and younger, and 59% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 420 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 214 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 812 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 162 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

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Distinguished by its small population (just 3,000 people live in the county seat of Alturas) and its remote location, Modoc County is home to rural communities, national forests, and a Native American reservation. Once heavily dependent on the lumber industry, the region is undergoing an economic transition since the closing of its mills.

The need for infant care has long been unmet in Alturas and the rest of the county. Many parents are forced to leave their infants with relatives or friends, an arrangement that is often problematic.

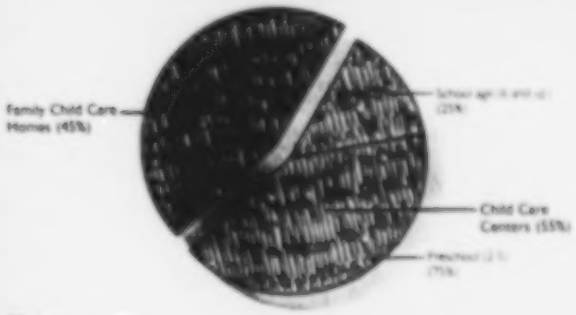
Outside of Alturas, finding licensed child care for a child of any age is a challenge. It is difficult for the resource and referral (R&R) agency to identify potential providers and to locate available, adequate facilities that meet state guidelines. (Most buildings in the region are old and there is not a lot of new construction or funding for renovation.)

In a unique arrangement, Modoc Child Care R&R is housed in the Modoc Family Resource Center, a building that brings together a number of family service agencies to streamline families' access to programs and services. Other agencies in the Resource Center include: Healthy Start, Healthy Family, CAL-LEARN, Families Matter, and WIC. As a result, the R&R is able to work in close collaboration with other family service agencies.

Twice a month, Modoc Child Care R&R collaborates with the Family Resource Center on a 'Mom's Night Out'—a free program that provides child care for mothers—many of them single teenagers. "This program offers women a chance to get together, to hear lectures on health care, stress reduction, and fetal alcohol syndrome, to participate in social activities and arts and crafts, and to enjoy the company of other moms. We also hold weekly playgroups for children of all ages. For those parents who can't make their way to us, we provide transportation."

Child Care Capacity in Modoc County

For information about child care in Modoc County, call Modoc Child Care R&R at 916-233-KIDS.



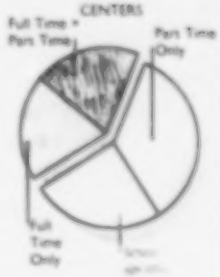
Slots

- 132 slots in 19 licensed family child care homes
- 161 slots in 7 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 91% accept children full time and part time; 9% accept children full time only. None accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 20% accept children full time and part time; 20% accept children full time only; and 60% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 42% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 21% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 47% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 29% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care, those most often cited are employment (85%), school training (15%), and seeking employment (6%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 23%; preschool care: 46%; school-age care: 29%

Family child care homes: 75%; child care centers: 25%; in-home care: 6%; other: 2%

Child care near their home: 46%; near their place of work, school, or training: 29%; near the child's school: 8%; other location/no preference: 17%

Full-time care: 42%; part-time care: 58%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 46%; part-time care: 54%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 10%; before- and/or after-school care: 15%

97% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 3% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 95% of providers speak English; 5%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 57%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Mono County

"Wages in Mono County aren't high. How is a single parent supposed to pay for child care and rent on only $6 an hour?"

In Mono County, skiing is big business. During the winter months, the county's population swells as affluent winter sports enthusiasts descend on the Mammoth Lakes mountain ski areas for vacations. Mono County's population can be divided into three segments—permanent residents who subsist during non-winter months on low incomes, ski instructors and temporary service industry workers who move in for the winter and out for the summer, and affluent vacationers who come for winter recreation. Each group has very different child care needs.

Most permanent and transient workers rely on low-paying service industry jobs. According to Community Connection for Children, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, many people earn about $6 an hour for office work. Those who work in restaurants earn minimum wage and tips. Because of the prevalence of low-wage work, there is much higher enrollment in the subsidy payment program in the winter than in the summer.

Drop-in care requests from visitors accounts for another increase in wintertime child care referrals. Often parents contact the R&R looking for care while they ski, and there are frequent requests for caregivers to watch children at parents' vacation condos. For providers, the greatest challenge is incorporating the needs of visiting families into year-round programs while maintaining full capacity and guaranteeing continuity and quality for the local community.

In all parts of the county, child care centers are in great demand, while in remote outer regions of the county, family child care providers are most needed. Staff members at Mono County's R&R work closely with all providers throughout the region: the small, close-knit community allows for the development of personal connections between parents and providers.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 10,820 residents, including 2,246 (21%) children under the age of 14; 665 (6%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 147 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 107 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 11% (254) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 88%; Spanish: 9%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 8 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 59% of children 5 years and younger, and 79% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 617 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 315 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 944 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 189 are in child care outside the family.
- 82% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 18% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $110 week or $5,720 annually (55% of minimum wage)

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Child Care Capacity in Mono County

For information about child care in Mono County, call Community Connection for Children at 619-934-3343.

Slots

- 222 slots in 36 licensed family child care homes
- 217 slots in 3 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- *Of all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 100% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; none accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 100% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and none accept children part time only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 71% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 100% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 33% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are: employment (64%), other parent needs (25%), and seeking employment (8%). Other reasons include: school/training and referred by CPS or other professional.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 31%; preschool care: 41%; school-age care: 29%

Family child care homes: 82%; child care centers: 8%; in-home care: 14%.

Child care near their home: 18%; near their place of work, school, or training: 2%; other location/no preference: 80%

Full-time care: 42%; part-time care: 63%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 41%; part-time care: 62%

97% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 3% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 19% Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 5% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1998) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Monterey County

Monterey County includes some of the most beautiful stretches of coastline in the state, as well as the tourist attractions of Monterey Bay. But the county's physical beauty has also created a high cost of living in a region whose main industry is agriculture and where the majority of residents work at jobs that do not pay high wages.

With the 1994 closing of the U.S. Army base at Fort Ord, tourism and the agricultural industry became even more important to the regional economy. The closing also had an immediate impact on the county's child care providers; fewer people sought care, either because they were unemployed and did not need care, or because they were under-employed and could not afford care. With the subsequent opening of California State University at Monterey Bay, the demand for child care increased once again.

Despite pockets of affluence, the prevalence of low-paying jobs results in a significant demand for subsidized care. According to staff at Monterey County Child Care Resource & Referral Program, the county's R&R agency, the lack of subsidized child care is a big obstacle for many families.

It's particularly difficult to locate child care for families whose situations combine two unique needs, such as a part-time schedule, and special medical or behavioral needs.

"We received a call from a mother who needed after-school child care for her daughter with special needs," said an R&R staff member. "It took some time, but we were able to put her in touch with an organization that helps families with special needs. We also found a school that offered appropriate activities."

"There are almost no infant spaces in Monterey County child care centers, and available infant care slots in family day care homes are hard to come by."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 389,413 residents, including 86,861 (22%) children under the age of 14; 37,620 (10%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 6,871 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 7,593 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 17% (14,464) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 65%; Spanish: 27%; Tagalog: 2%; Korean: 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 19 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 52% of children 5 years and younger, and 64% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 21,215 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 10,820 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 29,465 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 5,893 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $112/week or $5,824 annually (56% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $98/week or $5,096 annually (49% of minimum wage)

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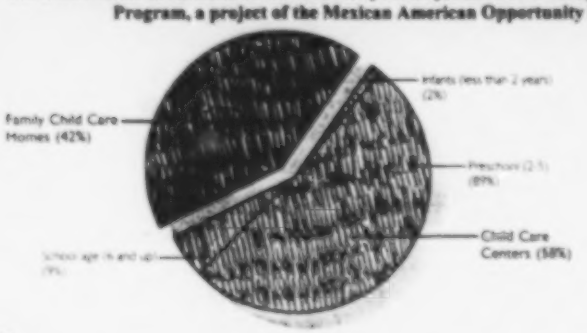
Child Care Capacity in Monterey County

For information about child care in Monterey County, call the Monterey County Child Care Resource & Referral Program, a project of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation, at 408-757-0756.



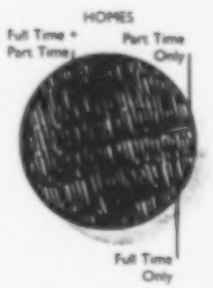
Slots

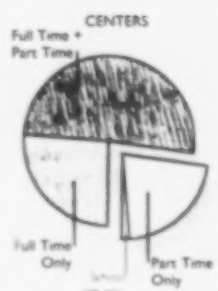
- 3,060 slots in 372 licensed family child care homes
- 4,271 slots in 93 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 84% accept children full time and part time; 15% accept children full time only; 1% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 51% accept children full time and part time; 26% accept children full time only; and 23% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 6% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 25% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 77% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 25% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (87%) and school/training (15%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, back-up care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 34%; preschool care: 47%; school-age care: 20%

Family child care homes: 88%; child care centers: 15%; other: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 86%; near their place of work, school, or training: 11%; near the child's school: 6%

Full-time care: 56%; part-time care: 44%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 62%; part-time care: 38%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 2%; before- and/or after-school care: 9%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 24% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

In licensed family child care homes 97% of providers speak English; 30%, Spanish; less than 1%, Chinese. None speak Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 3% of providers speak other languages.

Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 40%, Spanish; 3%, Tagalog, Vietnamese; 2%, Korean; none, Chinese. None have providers who speak other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Napa County

"We are always struck by the contrasts within Napa County. People call for help to find child care so they can work. But there aren't enough subsidized programs, so parents are in a bind. At the same time, we have people calling who can afford to pay $18 an hour to a local nanny agency to have someone take care of their children at a bed and breakfast."

World-renowned for its picturesque vineyards, many Napa County residents make a living off the wine and tourism industries. As a result, parents often work odd hours, weekends, and evenings, and need child care that meets their unusual schedules. According to the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, Community Resources for Children, "When it's time to crush the grapes, wine industry workers need to be ready. People work around-the-clock and have demands for child care that are difficult to accommodate."

There is a demand for infant care throughout the county, and surprisingly, requests for part-time care nearly match those for full-time care at most times during the year. As a result, providers are forced to juggle available spaces (and risk being over capacity or losing money) or they avoid enrolling part-timers at all. Overall, vacancy rates are at a low 7% and there is an ongoing need to attract new people to the field of child care.

Business and tourist travelers also make unusual demands on child care in the county. Visitors who bring children with them are often able to pay far more than local residents.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 120,560 residents, including 22,256 (18%) children under the age of 14; 19,937 (17%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 1,107 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 1,057 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 10% (2,164) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 83%; Spanish: 11%; Tagalog: 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 19 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 54% of children 5 years and younger, and 68% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 5,317 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 2,712 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 8,392 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 1,678 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $136 week or $7,072 annually (68% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $99 week or $5,148 annually (50% of minimum wage)

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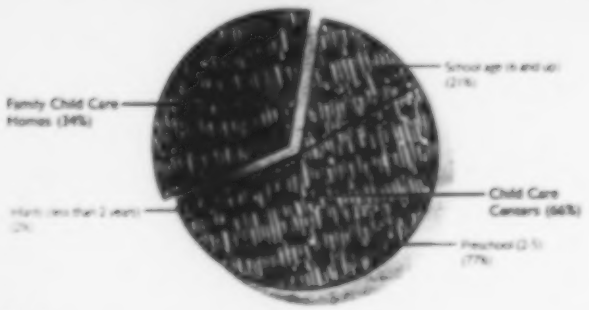
Child Care Capacity in Napa County

For information about child care in Napa County, call Community Resources for Children at 707-253-6376.



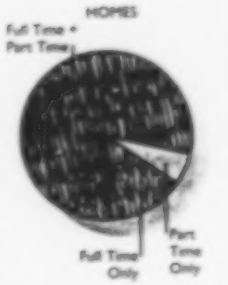
Slots

- 1,074 slots in 142 licensed family child care homes
- 2,129 slots in 55 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 81% accept children full time and part time; 13% accept children full time only; 6% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 71% accept children full time and part time; 3% accept children full time only; and 26% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 25% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 29% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 52% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 47% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (61%), school/training (13%), and seeking employment (10%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 33%; preschool care: 44%; school-age care: 23%

Family child care homes: 85%; child care centers: 65%; in-home care: 7%; other: 3%

Child care near their home: 78%; near their place of work, school, or training: 24%; near the child's school: 11%; other location/no preference: 13%

Full-time care: 52%; part-time care: 48%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 57%; part-time care: 43%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 15%; before- and/or after-school care: 9%

Close to 100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 5% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 93% of providers speak English; 15%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog; none, Chinese, Korean, or Vietnamese. 4% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 86% have providers who speak English; 34%, Spanish; 7%, Chinese, Korean; 4%, Tagalog; none, Vietnamese. 3% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Nevada County

Families of Nevada County and its neighbor, Sierra County, are both served by the Sierra Nevada Children's Services, the region's child care resource and referral (R&R) agency. Although the two counties have much in common and are approximately the same geographic size, Nevada County has three times the population and a higher level of income. Many residents of Nevada County have relocated from urban areas; some commute to the Sacramento area for jobs.

In many ways, child care throughout the region is in the process of development. The area's first state preschool is now two years old and before- and after-school programs have only recently begun.

For those who work in Nevada County's service industry jobs, finding flexible child care to cover irregular hours is a big challenge. With a large retiree community, the R&R is working with more and more grandparents who are raising their grandchildren.

Sierra Nevada Children's Services works to meet the needs of families living in either Sierra or Nevada counties, from two-parent working families, to single parents, to grandparents raising grandchildren. "Recently we helped a father who had just received custody of his 17-month-old son. And another single dad who had to give up his job in the oil fields to care for his baby when he was awarded custody. We gave them both referrals to child care providers and parenting resources—and we're trying to help them build connections with other families."

"We have a real demand for special needs care. Families and their children with disabilities tend to get trapped in the whole early intervention system, which provides respite but doesn't meet the family's child care needs. The process seems to expect that these parents don't have to work."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 96,305 residents, including 18,654 (19%) children under the age of 14; 17,566 (18%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 907 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 1,043 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 10% (1,950) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 95%; Spanish: 2%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 18 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 53% of children 5 years and younger, and 65% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 3,827 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 1,952 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 7,472 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 1,494 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $120/week or $6,240 annually (60% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $85/week or $4,420 annually (43% of minimum wage)

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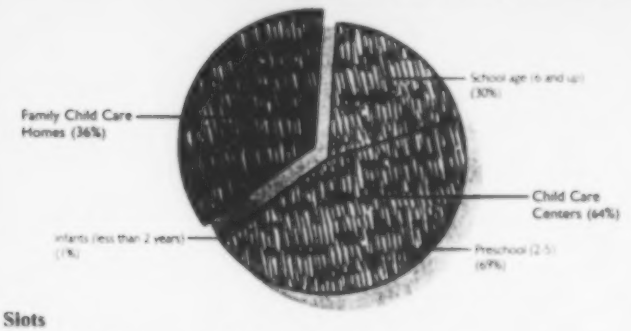
Child Care Capacity in Nevada County

For information about child care in Nevada County, call Sierra Nevada Children's Services at 916-272-8866 in Grass Valley, or 916-587-5960 in Truckee.



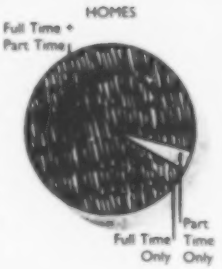
Slots

- 804 slots in 95 licensed family child care homes
- 1,423 slots in 35 licensed child care centers

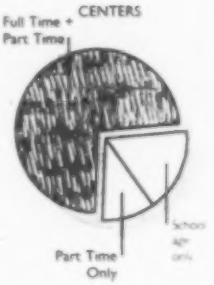
Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 92% accept children full time and part time; 4% accept children full time only; 4% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 73% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 27% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 61% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.



- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 27% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 81% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 5% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 73% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (78%), seeking employment (6%), and other parent needs (5%). Other reasons include: school/training, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, and child enrichment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 33%; preschool care: 43%; school-age care: 24%

Family child care homes: 91%; child care centers: 30%; in-home care: 3%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 78%; near their place of work, school, or training: 27%; near the child's school: 4%

Full-time care: 44%; part-time care: 57%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 44%; part-time care: 57%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 12%; before- and/or after-school care: 5%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English. None speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Orange County

"I talked to a woman today who was moving from northern California to the southern part of Orange County. She wanted infant care from five in the morning until seven at night and was shocked that she couldn't get it. The reality is that providers in this area don't need to offer this extended service—the demand for child care is simply too great."

Like much of Southern California, Orange County has a large population with great cultural and economic diversity. Although the county is relatively small in geographic size, its residents still cannot escape Southern California's long commutes.

Whether or not child care is available to meet the needs of commuting parents depends upon the part of the county in which a family lives. Demand for care is the greatest in the bedroom communities of the southern part of the county where new developments have sprung up without the creation of support systems such as schools or child care. In the more populated northern part of the county a high number of child care vacancies exist. These differences are reflected in the price of child care: the average cost of care is more than 50% higher in the southern region than in the north.

In certain parts of the county, there is high demand for before- and after-school care. Unlike other kinds of child care, however, availability of before- and after-school care does not depend on the region in which a family lives, but on the school district: some districts provide ample before-and-after care, while others do not.

For the Children's Home Society of California, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, meeting the area's child care needs means serving more than just Orange County residents. Many people who have been attracted to cheaper housing costs in Riverside and Los Angeles commute to jobs in Orange County and seek child care close to work. These parents have discovered the silver lining to long commutes, however. By bringing the kids along, car pool lanes can be used, commute time is cut considerably, and parents and children can spend more time together.

For many parents who live or work in Orange County, long commutes are a way of life. "Often a parent will call us and say, 'I'm traveling from this city to that city on this freeway. Where can I find child care along the route?' They're flexible, and it's nice to be able to accommodate them."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 2,717,453 residents, including 526,778 (19%) children under the age of 14; 247,460 (9%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 26,432 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 31,852 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 11% (58,284) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 69%; Spanish: 19%; Vietnamese: 3%; Chinese, Tagalog, Korean: 1%. 6% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 55% of children 5 years and younger, and 63% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 134,547 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 68,619 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 176,248 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 35,250 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $140/week or $7,280 annually (70% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $102/week or $5,304 annually (51% of minimum wage)

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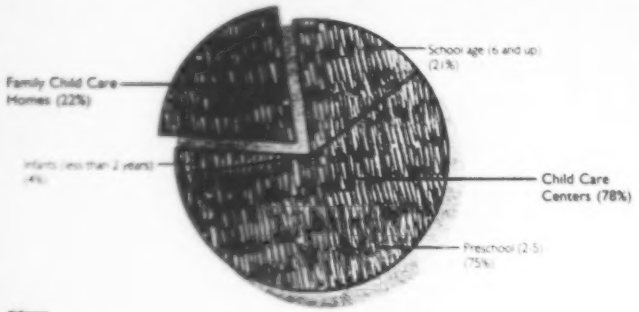
Child Care Capacity in Orange County

For information about child care in Orange County, call Children's Home Society of California at 714-835-8252.



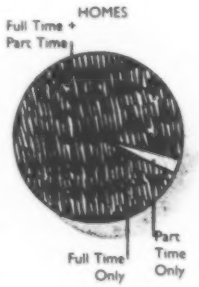
Slots

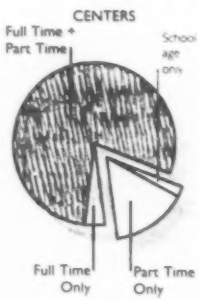
- 11,148 slots in 1,517 licensed family child care homes
- 38,670 slots in 488 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 81% accept children full time and part time; 16% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 79% accept children full time and part time; 4% accept children full time only; and 17% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 12% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 27% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 45% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, less than 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 64% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (85%) and school/training (8%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 43%; preschool care: 41%; school-age care: 17%

Family child care homes: 71%; child care centers: 76%; in-home care: 1%; other: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 93%; near their place of work, school, or training: 12%; near the child's school: 4%

Full-time care: 69%; part-time care: 40%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 72%; part-time care: 36%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 8%; before- and/or after-school care: 5%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% by Spanish-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by Chinese-speaking providers and less than 1% by Vietnamese-speaking providers. None requested care by Tagalog- or Korean-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English; 18%, Spanish; 1%, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese. 14% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers close to 100% have providers who speak English; 42%, Spanish; 5%, Vietnamese; 2%, Chinese, Tagalog; 1%, Korean. 10% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Placer County

"This was once a sleepy bedroom community. Now, with the arrival of big city industry and expectations, Placer County is beginning to lose its leisurely lifestyle."

From the rolling flatlands of the developing southeast region to the mountainous Tahoe area in the northwest, Placer County includes just about every type of terrain imaginable and has attracted many new residents from urban areas who are searching for the slower pace of rural living.

The influx of new families, however, has meant that the number of child care referrals has almost doubled, and requests for other child care services has tripled. Despite this growth, two factors contribute to a low number of "latch-key" kids in Placer County. First, almost every elementary school in the county provides on-site after-school child care. Second, Placer County has a pilot program that allows family child care providers to care for two additional school-age children, six years and older. Together, these programs appear to be meeting the needs of these older children.

Infant care, however, presents a problem for many parents in Placer County. Part-time infant care is particularly difficult to find, but staff members at the Placer County Office of Education, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, report that the availability of licensed child care facilities that offer "off-shift" care during evenings and weekends has increased. And phone calls that begin with a request for child care referrals often lead to questions about a wide range of other services.

"We worked with a teenage mom who needed to find low-income services such as AFDC, MediCal, WIC, and subsidized child care. The R&R was able to help her with referrals to child care providers *and* to the appropriate agencies."

Because summer attractions and winter recreation offerings at Lake Tahoe make Placer County a popular vacation area, non-residents also need child care. The influx of tourists increases the demand for child care, particularly for weekend skiers in search of the few providers who offer drop-in service.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 218,446 residents, including 45,518 (21%) children under the age of 14; 25,772 (12%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 1,978 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 2,168 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 9% (4,146) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 92%; Spanish: 4%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 18 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 53% of children 5 years and younger, and 64% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 10,147 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 5,175 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 16,847 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 3,369 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $152/week or $7,904 annually (76% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $109/week or $5,668 annually (55% of minimum wage)

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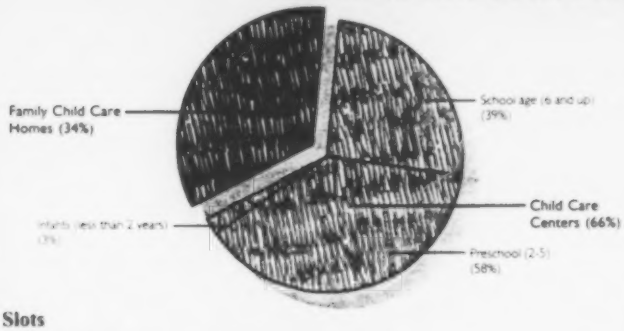
Child Care Capacity in Placer County

For information about child care in Placer County, call the Placer County Office of Education—Child Care Services at 916-652-1055 or 800-464-3322.



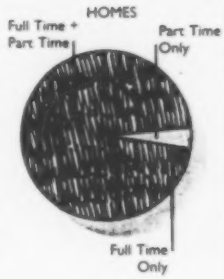
Slots

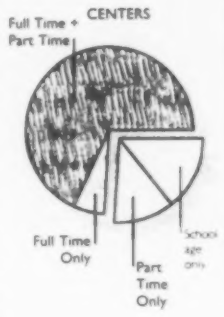
- 2,586 slots in 337 licensed family child care homes
- 4,926 slots in 88 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 86% accept children full time and part time; 10% accept children full time only; 4% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 68% accept children full time and part time; 6% accept children full time only; and 26% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 55% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 17% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 51% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 28% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (92%) and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: school/training, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 43%; preschool care: 37%; school-age care: 20%

Family child care homes: 94%; child care centers: 21%; in-home care: 3%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 92%; near their place of work, school, or training: 4%; near the child's school: 13%

Full-time care: 61%; part-time care: 40%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 66%; part-time care: 35%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 5%; before- and/or after-school care: 25%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 5%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog; less than 1%, Korean; none, Chinese or Vietnamese. 4% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 20%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 4% have providers who speak other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Plumas County

"A lot of counties use the term 'rural' to describe themselves, but we are <u>really</u> rural. If you don't have access to your own transportation it can be almost impossible to access services like child care. The isolation becomes even greater in the wintertime when people are even less mobile."

Plumas County is an isolated, sparsely populated area in the northern Sierra Nevada mountains. Larger than the state of Delaware, Plumas encompasses about 2,600 square miles. Its population is approximately 20,000, with about eight people per square mile. Geography and winter weather conditions isolate the four major communities of the county. There is limited public transportation between these communities and no public transportation out of the county. A personal vehicle is often required to access child care.

Major employers in the county include the timber industry, U.S. Forest Service, government, tourism, and services. Seasonal fluctuations in employment affect the provision of child care in the county. During the summer months when employment is high and population swells, child care providers find themselves filled to capacity. During winter months when unemployment rates soar, parents are more likely to work part-time, if at all, and are less likely to need full-time care for their children. Family child care providers find it difficult to stay in business year-round as a result.

In order for Plumas County parents to enhance their job skills, they may have to travel to urban areas for training. This, coupled with fire crew and railroad employment, requires overnight child care. Locating 24-hour care is a challenge.

Plumas shares some of the same major child care issues of larger or more urban counties: a shortage of part-time, off-hour, and school-age care. Almost half of the calls to the resource and referral (R&R) agency are for part-time or off-hour care. Staff members at Plumas Rural Services, the local R&R agency, attribute this need to families piecing together part-time work and child care.

Centers that offer before- and after-school services serve only kindergartners. As of fall 1996 there were no infant or school-age centers in the county.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 21,827 residents, including 4,486 (21%) children under the age of 14; 3,762 (17%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 422 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 463 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 20% (885) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 94%; Spanish: 3%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 12 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 48% of children 5 years and younger, and 64% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 851 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 434 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 1,737 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 347 are in child care outside the family.
- 80% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 20% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $104/week or $5,408 annually (52% of minimum wage)

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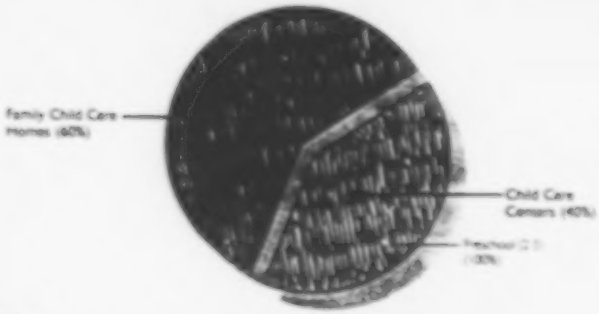
Child Care Capacity in Plumas County

For information about child care in Plumas County, call Plumas Rural Services at 916-283-4453.



Slots

- 348 slots in 42 licensed family child care homes
- 234 slots in 10 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 96% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; 4% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 39% accept children full time and part time; none accept children full time only; and 61% accept children part time only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 24% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 88% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 27% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (75%), school/training (10%), and seeking employment (8%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 13%; preschool care: 52%; school-age care: 35%

Family child care homes: 96%; child care centers: 63%; in-home care: 2%

Child care near their home: 80%; near their place of work, school, or training: 51%; near the child's school: 7%; other location/no preference: 13%

Full-time care: 45%; part-time care: 74%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 38%; part-time care: 74%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 20%; before- and/or after-school care: 10%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 1% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 17%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 5% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 18%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 9% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Riverside County

"If your family income is $6,000 or $7,000 a year, child care becomes a low priority compared with feeding yourself and your children."

A four-and-a-half-hour drive from one side of the county to the other, and larger than some states, Riverside County covers a huge territory, ranging from urban and suburban areas to mountain and sparsely populated desert regions.

With such diversity of landscape, community, and population, "Riverside's child care issues vary depending on which area you're looking at," say staff members of Riverside County Office of Education, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency. In affluent communities like Palm Springs, the wealthy and the low-income service industry workers live side-by-side, with one population able to pay high rates for private or in-home care, the other in need of subsidies or low rates. Migrant workers in the outer desert region earn extremely low wages, and total family income may be no more than $6,000 or $7,000 per year. For these families child care is prohibitively expensive, and many parents who are eligible for AFDC do not access the system.

"There are still desert areas that are remote enough, rural enough, and so lacking in service organizations that there has never been any licensed care. We are just beginning to see the emergence of family child care homes in those communities."

The city of Riverside and other suburban enclaves have huge commuter populations. In Moreno Valley, for example, 76% of the adult population leaves the county every day for a two- to three-hour commute to Los Angeles or Orange County. In the south county areas like Temecula, many parents commute to San Diego. "Child care centers do not serve the hours that these families need."

While long commutes create a demand for longer hours of child care, they also have a deleterious effect on school-age children who are more likely to go unsupervised. "Families moved out here to get their children out of the inner city environment, and now their kids are unsupervised, bored, and finding ways to get into trouble anyway."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 1,555,244 residents, including 361,450 (23%) children under the age of 14; 204,674 (13%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 26,967 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 29,587 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 16% (56,554) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 75%; Spanish: 20%; Tagalog: 1%; 4% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 49% of children 5 years and younger, and 58% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 80,158 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 40,881 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 114,673 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 22,935 are in child care outside the family.
- 77% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 23% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $130 week or $6,760 annually (65% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $90 week or $4,680 annually (45% of minimum wage)

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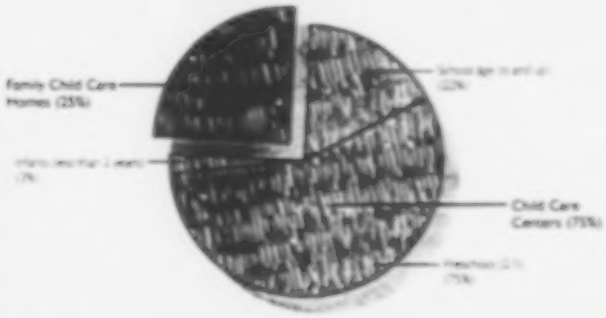
Child Care Capacity in Riverside County

For information on child care in Riverside County, call Riverside County Office of Education at 909-788-6610.



Slots

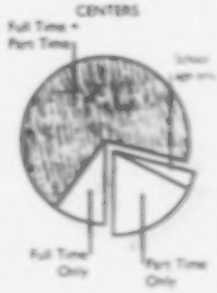
- 6,846 slots in 866 licensed family child care homes
- 20,037 slots in 301 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 72% accept children full time and part time; 26% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 69% accept children full time and part time; 10% accept children full time only; and 21% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 16% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.

- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 27% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 68% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 3% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 51% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (72%), school/training (16%), and seeking employment (9%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 32%; preschool care: 45%; school-age care: 23%

Family child care homes: 83%; child care centers: 60%; in-home care: 8%; other: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 85%; near their place of work, school, or training: 16%; near the child's school: 28%

Full-time care: 68%; part-time care: 32%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 73%; part-time care: 27%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 17%; before- and/or after-school care: 25%

Close to 100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 4% by Spanish-speaking providers; less than 1% by Vietnamese-speaking providers; none by Chinese-, Tagalog-, or Korean-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English; 18% Spanish; 1% Tagalog; less than 1% Chinese, and none, Korean or Vietnamese. 5% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 64% Spanish; less than 1% Tagalog, Korean, none, Chinese or Vietnamese. 8% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Sacramento County

Sacramento is largely a government town that has grown quickly alongside its Central Valley neighbors. Over the past decade, new communities—from Elk Grove in the south to Antelope in the north to Folsom in the east—have grown up in what used to be farmland and fields.

Sacramento has seen the arrival of some new high-tech industry, yet many newer jobs pay below union scale, and this new growth is somewhat canceled out by military base closures and economic recession. Many residents have been forced to work more than one job to make ends meet. Consequently, more families are patching together child care, and more parents are seeking financial assistance for care.

Among the greatest demands (and the most challenging to fulfill) are for infant care, care for children with special needs, and flexible care to meet parents' irregular work hours. Finding adequate, appropriate, flexible care is time-consuming and requires ongoing contact with Child Action, Inc., Sacramento's resource and referral (R&R) agency. The R&R has seen a steady increase in the number of first-time parents seeking information and resources—many of whom don't need child care for many months but are anxious about the process. In response to new work demands and increasing family pressures, the emphasis of the resource and referral agency has expanded to include more parenting and counseling services than previously offered.

"One week a parent needs care on Tuesday and Wednesday, the next week Friday. It's just not predictable anymore because of job pressures. This is difficult, not only for parents, but for providers—who don't have flexible schedules. How can you run a stable business when kids are popping in and out?"

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 1,216,048 residents, including 260,951 (21%) children under the age of 14; 128,319 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 25,580 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 25,787 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 20% (51,367) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 84%; Spanish: 7%; Chinese: 2%; Tagalog, Vietnamese: 1%; 5% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 50% of children 5 years and younger, and 61% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 59,042 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 30,111 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 87,209 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 17,442 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $146 week or $7,592 annually (73% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $106 week or $5,512 annually (53% of minimum wage)

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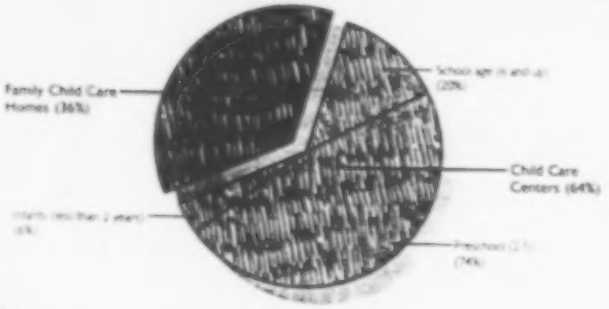
Child Care Capacity in Sacramento County

For information about child care in Sacramento County, call Child Action, Inc. at 916-387-0510.



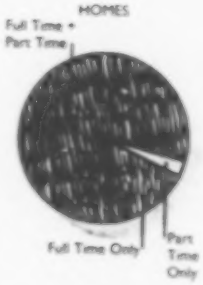
Slots

- 11,990 slots in 1,637 licensed family child care homes
- 21,365 slots in 344 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 85% accept children full time and part time; 12% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 83% accept children full time and part time; 3% accept children full time only; and 14% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 30% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 67% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 48% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (78%), seeking employment (9%), and school/training (9%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 36%; preschool care: 40%; school-age care: 23%

Family child care homes: 92%; child care centers: 61%; in-home care: 1%; other: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 79%; near their place of work, school, or training: 10%; near the child's school: 13%

Full-time care: 57%; part-time care: 44%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 64%; part-time care: 37%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 11%; before- and/or after-school care: 20%

Close to 100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 1% by Spanish-speaking providers; less than 1% by Chinese-speaking providers and less than 1% by Korean-speaking providers. None requested care by Tagalog- or Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English; 11%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog; less than 1%, Chinese, Vietnamese; none, Korean. 1% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers close to 100% have providers who speak English; 33%, Spanish; 2%, Chinese; 1%, Vietnamese; less than 1%, Tagalog; none, Korean. 1% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

San Benito County

Recently discovered as an affordable alternative to the high costs of Santa Clara County, San Benito County is growing. Agriculture remains the county's primary industry, but fields are giving way to suburban home development, as people who work in Silicon Valley move south in search of affordable housing. Staff members of Growth & Opportunity, San Benito's resource and referral (R&R) agency, believe the increase in population and housing construction will place increasing demands on the county's child care system over the next 5 to 10 years, and that there will be a shortage of providers unless recruitment programs are established.

Most agricultural jobs pay close to minimum wage, forcing parents to rely on subsidized care. Also, in some rural areas of the county, "there are *no* licensed providers and people have to bring their children into town for child care." Throughout the county there is also a significant shortage of subsidized infant care.

Both rural and suburban families face an increased need for odd-hour care and extended hours of care. Agricultural work often requires 12- or 14-hour shifts that begin before dawn. Low-income working parents find it difficult to locate child care providers who can serve these demanding schedules. Likewise, those parents who commute to San Jose need longer hours of care to cover their travel times.

"Often parents who desperately need child care call us every week to ask where they are on the waiting list. They tell us they might have to quit their jobs to take care of their children, or that they're leaving the children with family or friends as a short-term solution. We wish we could help everybody who qualifies for assistance, but unfortunately that's not how it works."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 44,348 residents, including 11,027 (25%) children under the age of 14; 4,394 (10%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 609 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 805 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 13% (1,414) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 62%; Spanish: 34%; Tagalog: 1%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 18 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 57% of children 5 years and younger, and 65% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 2,650 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 1,352 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 4,158 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 832 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $118/week or $6,136 annually (59% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $92/week or $4,784 annually (46% of minimum wage)

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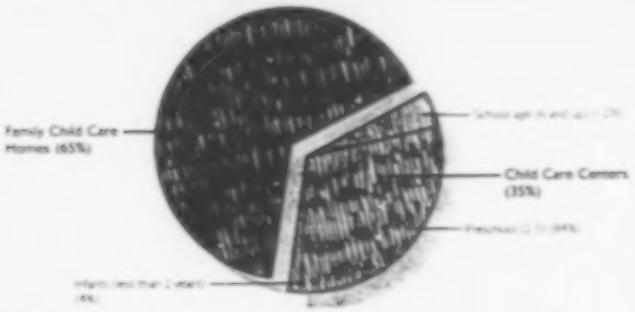
Child Care Capacity in San Benito County

For information about child care in San Benito County, call Growth & Opportunity, Inc. at 408-637-9205.



Slots

- 690 slots in 83 licensed family child care homes
- 372 slots in 11 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 95% accept children full time and part time; 3% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 73% accept children full time and part time; 5% accept children full time only; and 22% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 36% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 87% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 9% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 36% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, the one most often cited is employment (94%). Other reasons include: mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 25%; preschool care: 65%; school-age care: 10%

Family child care homes: 100%; child care centers: 16%

Child care near their home: 98%; near their place of work, school, or training: 2%

Full-time care: 85%; part-time care: 15%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 91%; part-time care: 9%

Before- and/or after-school care: 9%

63% of callers requested care by Spanish-speaking providers; 39% by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English, 42% Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 91% Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

San Bernardino County

"We hear from so many parents who want to get off AFDC, but they can't go out and look for jobs— let alone keep a job—unless they have child care."

Spanning more than 12 million acres, San Bernardino is the largest county in California and larger than some states. While many residents flock to new, relatively inexpensive housing developments in the high desert, others remain in older urban and suburban communities. Almost half the population is Hispanic, and child care issues are as diverse as the county is large.

"We're seeing an increased child care need in the high desert because so many families are moving there in search of affordable housing," says the staff at San Bernardino County Schools—Child Development Services, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency. "But many desert residents are concerned about the long distances between communities and their isolation in times of emergency."

Large numbers of San Bernardino residents commute long distances to work and need providers who offer long hours of care. Lengthy commutes have also contributed to an increased demand for before- and after-school care and a concern by many about having infants cared for so far from the workplace. The growth of new, larger retail businesses and discount stores—which require long and odd-hour shifts—has also contributed to the demand for care during non-traditional hours.

Staff members at the R&R note that it is often difficult to find school-age child care in the county because most centers focus on younger, full-time children. Licensing changes that took effect in 1996 may help to alleviate the school-age care shortage, as family child care home providers will be licensed to accept a greater number of these children.

Many parents are one child care payment away from unemployment. "We know parents who must shuffle their kids between family and neighbors—or anyone else they can get to watch them. One woman has missed work so often that she could easily lose her job if she doesn't find a better situation."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 1,779,426 residents, including 448,306 (25%) children under the age of 14; 154,798 (9%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 38,200 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 41,010 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 18% (79,210) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 77%; Spanish: 18%; Chinese, Tagalog: 1%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 45% of children 5 years and younger, and 56% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 92,771 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 47,313 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 137,179 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 27,436 are in child care outside the family.
- 77% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 23% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $120/week or $6,240 annually (60% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $88/week or $4,576 annually (44% of minimum wage)

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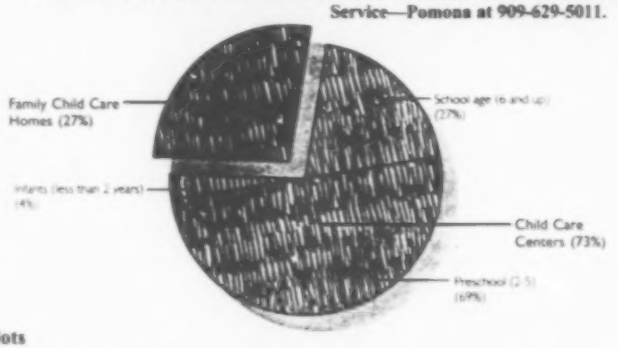
Child Care Capacity in San Bernardino County

For information on child care in San Bernardino County, call San Bernardino County Schools—Child Development Services at 909-478-5757. For information on child care in Western San Bernardino County, call Child Care Information Service—Pomona at 909-629-5011.



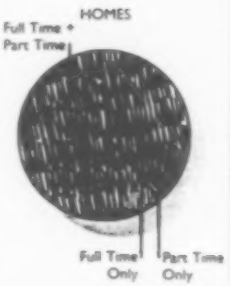
Slots

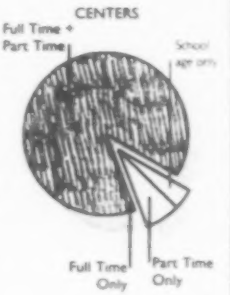
- 8,337 slots in 1,065 licensed family child care homes
- 22,886 slots in 291 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 94% accept children full time and part time; 6% accept children full time only; 1% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 89% accept children full time and part time; 1% accept children full time only; and 11% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 37% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 28% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 69% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 61% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (74%) and school/training (21%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 25%; preschool care: 47%; school-age care: 28%

Family child care homes: 92%; child care centers: 59%; in-home care: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 51%; near their place of work, school, or training: 19%; near the child's school: 30%

Full-time care: 49%; part-time care: 51%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 59%; part-time care: 41%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 10%; before- and/or after-school care: 25%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 4% by Spanish-speaking providers; less than 1% by Chinese-speaking providers and less than 1% by Korean-speaking providers. None requested care by Vietnamese- or Tagalog-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English; 17%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog; less than 1%, Chinese, Korean. None speak Vietnamese. 5% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 37%, Spanish; 1%, Korean, Tagalog; less than 1%, Chinese. None have providers who speak Vietnamese. 3% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

San Diego County

"For parents the biggest issue is the cost of child care. The reverse side of that is that providers feel they don't get paid enough. I don't know how you solve that problem."

San Diego County's economically and culturally diverse population lives in communities that range from rural to suburban to high density inner city. Its warm climate and tourist sites attract visitors from around the country, while its conference centers serve business travelers who often need child care referrals. Like other Southern Californians, San Diegans are dependent on the freeway; some residents drive an hour or more to and from work, increasing the demand for long hours of child care. Those who rely on public transportation often face commutes that are three or four times longer.

According to the YMCA Childcare Resource Service, San Diego's resource and referral (R&R) agency, finding care for parents who work rotating schedules or long shifts is often a challenge. Not all providers can accommodate those parents' flexible needs; those who do must be willing to juggle changing schedules.

Like elsewhere in the state, San Diego's YMCA Childcare Resource Service has a tough time meeting the demand for infant care. Finding care for families with school-age children and assisting families with transportation are also ongoing challenges; unless a child care facility provides busing it is difficult to get the child to and from care. The number of providers who are willing to care for school-age children is also reduced since these children are only part-time customers.

Often care is not available in a family's immediate community, and parents must seek care near work or on their commute route. "We worked with a single father who needed care for his two-and-a-half-year-old during the day while he worked at his delivery job. The father needed care as early as 5 a.m. Although his first choice was a child care center, there were no centers close to his work or home. We gave him names of family child care providers who could accommodate early mornings, but none had openings. Finally, we determined the father's work route and directed him to providers along the way."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 2,825,270 residents, including 558,034 (20%) children under the age of 14; 307,753 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 43,556 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 45,359 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 16% (88,915) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 75%; Spanish: 16%; Tagalog: 3%; Chinese, Vietnamese: 1%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 51% of children 5 years and younger, and 61% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 133,289 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 67,977 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 181,319 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 36,264 are in child care outside the family.
- 82% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 18% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $138/week or $7,176 annually (69% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $98/week or $5,096 annually (49% of minimum wage)

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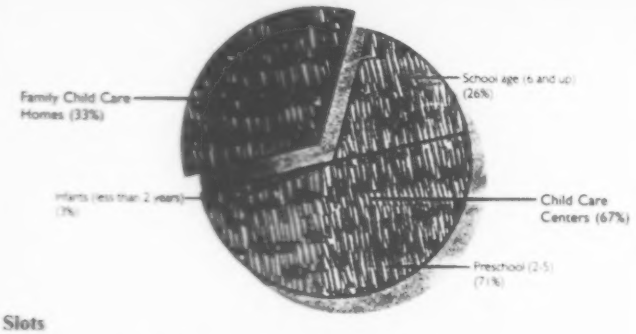
Child Care Capacity in San Diego County

For information about child care in San Diego County, call YMCA Childcare Resource Service at 619-521-3055.



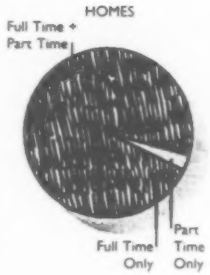
Slots

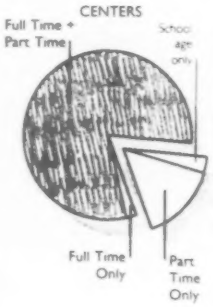
- 24,746 slots in 3,434 licensed family child care homes
- 51,100 slots in 774 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 86% accept children full time and part time; 10% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 79% accept children full time and part time; 2% accept children full time only; and 18% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 17% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 27% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 65% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 49% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (72%), school/training (18%), and seeking employment (9%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 40%; preschool care: 41%; school-age care: 18%

Family child care homes: 70%; child care centers: 52%; in-home care: less than 1%; other: 2%

Child care near their home: 96%; near their place of work, school, or training: 3%; near the child's school: 1%

Full-time care: 59%; part-time care: 52%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 63%; part-time care: 47%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 7%; before- and/or after-school care: 13%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English; 19%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog; less than 1%, Chinese, Vietnamese; none, Korean. 9% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 42%, Spanish; 1%, Chinese, Tagalog. None have providers who speak Korean or Vietnamese. 7% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

San Francisco County

"We helped a woman who had worked in the education field in China before she moved to San Francisco. We told her what it would take to become a preschool teacher or child care provider; she took the classes and got a job at one of the centers. When she became pregnant, she returned to us for help applying for a license and then opened up a family child care home."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 758,975 residents, including 95,836 (13%) children under the age of 14; 110,526 (15%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 7,575 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 9,711 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 18% (17,286) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 58%; Chinese: 17%; Spanish: 11%; Tagalog: 4%; Korean, Vietnamese: 1%. 8% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 57% of children 5 years and younger, and 61% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 24,936 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 12,717 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 31,833 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 6,367 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $180/week or $9,360 annually (90% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $125/week or $6,500 annually (63% of minimum wage)

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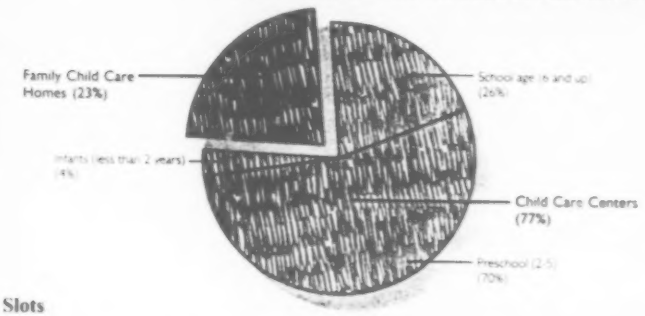
Throughout the city and county of San Francisco, affordable housing and child care are always in demand. The need is particularly high for infant care: 43% of all calls to San Francisco's two resource and referral (R&R) agencies are from parents seeking infant care, yet only 4% of the total number of spaces in child care centers are designated for infants. Most parents appear to prefer child care centers for their infants, although few spaces exist. Through the Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP), R&R staff members are recruiting and training family child care home providers to care for infants and toddlers.

Like most major cities, San Francisco runs 24 hours a day. From the large distribution centers to the hospitality industry, many residents work nights, weekends, and swing shifts. For many of these parents, finding affordable flexible care is a major concern. Despite the lower pay for many off-hour jobs, child care providers traditionally demand higher rates for care during these hours. The city of San Francisco provides funding for child care subsidies, and special efforts are made to reach low-income working parents who have completed training programs but have used up Transitional Child Care resources.

San Francisco families are served by two resource and referral agencies, the Children's Council of San Francisco, which has an administrative headquarters in downtown San Francisco and satellite offices in Bayview Hunter's Point and the Mission district, and Wu Yee Children's Services, which is located in the heart of Chinatown and houses a myriad of services that help families obtain the help they need. These agencies meet the needs of multilingual families and providers by offering the help of counselors who speak various languages. Unlike most R&Rs, the Children's Council has a contract with the County Department of Human Services to handle all child care resources, referrals, and subsidies for GAIN (also shared by Wu Yee) and Cal Learn, a system that allows counselors to work more closely with parents throughout the process of finding and paying for child care.

Child Care Capacity in San Francisco County

For information about child care in San Francisco County, call the Children's Council of San Francisco at 415-243-0700 or Wu Yee Children's Services at 415-391-8993.



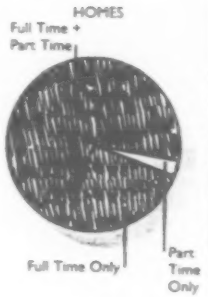
Slots

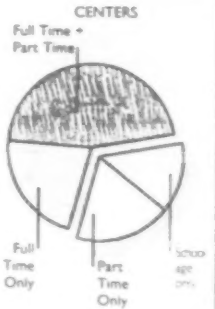
- 3,993 slots in 564 licensed family child care homes
- 13,569 slots in 236 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 74% accept children full time and part time; 24% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 46% accept children full time and part time; 22% accept children full time only; and 32% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 42% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 30% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 35% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, less than 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 30% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (73%), seeking employment (18%), and school/training (12%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 43%; preschool care: 47%; school-age care: 9%

Family child care homes: 75%; child care centers: 66%; in-home care: 5%; other: 3%

Child care near their home: 75%; near their place of work, school, or training: 22%; near the child's school: 2%

Full-time care: 72%; part-time care: 31%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 74%; part-time care: 29%.

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 5%; before- and/or after-school care: 4%

71% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% by Spanish-speaking providers; 26% by Chinese-speaking providers; less than 1% by Vietnamese-speaking providers; none by Tagalog- or Korean-speaking providers. 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 91% of providers speak English; 20%, Chinese; 19%, Spanish; 3%, Vietnamese, Tagalog; none, Korean. 11% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 28%, Spanish; 19%, Chinese; 7%, Tagalog; 2%, Vietnamese; 1%, Korean. None have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

San Joaquin County

"A woman who was expecting twins called in search of low-cost child care for infants. Providers are pretty compassionate, and some will consider cutting their fees if a parent has special circumstances. But when I quoted the prices to her, even with the reduced rates some offered, there was no way she could afford it."

Located in the heart of the Central Valley, San Joaquin County encompasses rich farmland, rural and suburban communities, and seven cities, including Stockton with a population of 234,000. Some residents make long commutes to jobs in the Bay Area, and some are employed in manufacturing, distribution, education, professional, and service industries. Many depend on the county's agricultural industry, its seasonal work, long shifts, and low wages. A deep water shipping port, railroads, and trucking concerns add to the variety of employment. Child care needs vary according to where people live and which industry employs them.

San Joaquin is a culturally rich county, with sizeable immigrant populations from Mexico, Southeast Asia, India, Pakistan, the Middle East, Russia, and Central and South America. Staff at Family Resource and Referral Center, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, see an increasing need for providers who speak Spanish and Asian languages. The R&R also works with many families who struggle to make ends meet on $5- or $6-an-hour wages. "Those are the parents who are really worried when they call for referrals," note R&R staff members. "A lot of these parents must leave their children at home alone or use neighbors or relatives because they simply can't afford care."

Families in the Stockton and Lodi area have more options than those in rural or suburban areas because they live closer to work, while parents in the southern part of the county tend to commute longer distances.

In some areas, the combination of low wages, limited skills, and high unemployment, also makes it difficult for child care providers to remain in business: Families in some low- income areas suffer from a lack of providers because providers can't stay afloat. Parents with middle-income wages could bring their children into lower-income neighborhoods to stabilize the providers' incomes, but parents rarely do this because they prefer care that is close to home or to work.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 562,508 residents, including 134,328 (24%) children under the age of 14; 62,339 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 14,359 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 16,750 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 23% (31,109) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 72%; Spanish: 15%; Tagalog: 2%; Chinese, Vietnamese: 1%. 9% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 45% of children 5 years and younger, and 52% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 26,132 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 13,327 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 39,731 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 7,946 are in child care outside the family.
- 79% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 21% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $125/week or $6,500 annually (63% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $86/week or $4,472 annually (43% of minimum wage)

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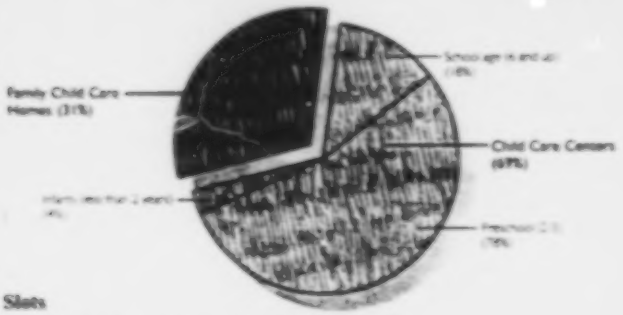
Child Care Capacity in San Joaquin County

For information about child care in San Joaquin County, call the Family Resource & Referral Center at 209-948-1953.



Slots

- 4,218 slots in 611 licensed family child care homes
- 9,552 slots in 166 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 86% accept children full time and part time; 13% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 70% accept children full time and part time; 1% accept children full time only; and 29% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 4% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 30% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 67% offer before- and/or after-school care.

  Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 48% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (67%) and school/training (20%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 31%; preschool care: 47%; school-age care: 23%

Family child care homes: 90%; child care centers: 37%; in-home care: 1%

Child care near their home: 92%; near their place of work, school, or training: 5%; near the child's school: 6%

Full-time care: 69%; part-time care: 35%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 75%; part-time care: 29%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 9%; before- and/or after-school care: 14%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 3% by Spanish-speaking providers; less than 1% by Vietnamese- and less than 1% by Tagalog-speaking providers. None requested care by Korean- or Chinese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English; 13%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog; less than 1%, Chinese, Vietnamese; none, Korean. 3% of providers speak other languages.

  Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 99% have providers who speak English; 60%, Spanish; 2%, Vietnamese; 1%, Chinese; none, Tagalog or Korean. 2% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

San Luis Obispo County

"A parent called from a car phone and asked for the name and number of all the child care providers in the area. She said she could handle the whole list because she had 450 employees, and so many needed child care."

Located on the central coast, San Luis Obispo's mild climate attracts vacationers throughout the year. As a tourist destination, San Luis Obispo's resource and referral (R&R) agency, the EOC—Child Care Resource Connection, frequently gets calls from parents who are traveling through and need short term child care options for their children. These vacationers contribute to the county's large demand for odd-hour and drop-in care, as do parents who work in hospitals or other industries requiring shift work or weekend hours.

Among resident families the demand for infant care is very high. In addition, because San Luis Obispo County is home to two colleges, a large number of young parents are students. These parents typically only need part-time care, as they can take care of their children when they are not in class.

Often the R&R finds itself providing services beyond basic referrals to child care providers. "We do a lot of informal education. One mother called us and said that her four-year-old had the shakes and she wanted to know what was wrong with her child. It took a lot of questions but it finally came out that she had allowed her child to have coffee and donuts. We try to use opportunities like that to teach people how to take better care of their children."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 244,715 residents, including 43,064 (18%) children under the age of 14; 34,592 (14%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 2,746 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 2,964 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 13% (5,710) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 88%; Spanish: 8%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 55% of children 5 years and younger, and 66% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 10,320 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 5,263 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 15,874 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 3,175 are in child care outside the family.
- 79% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 21% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $94 week or $4,888 annually (47% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $64 week or $3,328 annually (32% of minimum wage)

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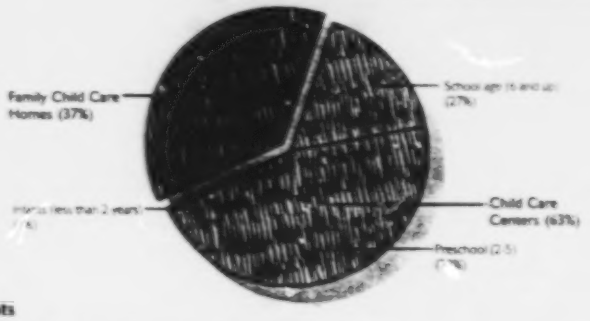
Child Care Capacity in San Luis Obispo County

For information about child care in San Luis Obispo County, call the EOC—Child Care Resource Connection at 805-544-4355.



Slots

- 2,184 slots in 304 licensed family child care homes
- 3,757 slots in 92 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 85% accept children full time and part time; 8% accept children full time only; 7% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 64% accept children full time and part time; 1% accept children full time only; and 35% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 56% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.

- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 28% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 66% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 5% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 51% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English; 16%, Spanish; less than 1%, Chinese, Vietnamese; none, Tagalog or Korean. 6% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 19%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 3% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (71%), school/ training (16%), and other parent needs (7%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, and child enrichment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 41%; preschool care: 42%; school-age care: 17%

Family child care homes: 93%; child care centers: 15%; in-home care: 4%

Child care near their home: 89%; near their place of work, school, or training: 20%; near the child's school: 4%

Full-time care: 42%; part-time care: 63%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 44%; part-time care: 61%.

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 12%; before- and/or after-school care: 4%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

San Mateo County

"San Mateo County has a lot of residents who are struggling to make ends meet. It's an expensive county, and families are trying desperately to be able to live here, raise their children, go to work, and find care that they can afford. We get calls from people in the middle-income levels who are working very hard to put things together."

San Mateo County, like much of the Bay Area, is a study in contrasts. Communities like Hillsborough and Atherton are home to some of the wealthiest families in the nation, while neighbors in East Palo Alto and migrant farm workers in coastal agricultural communities struggle to make ends meet.

Despite these economic differences, the overall cost of living in San Mateo County is far above the state average, and the cost of child care is ranked third highest in California—presenting a challenge for low-income working families whose salaries might be just above the level to qualify for child care subsidies. The county has, however, successfully implemented centralized waiting lists for subsidized care, which has effectively streamlined a previously cumbersome system and created a client-focused, family-friendly process for parents seeking child care.

San Mateo County encompasses 20 cities and 10 unincorporated areas, each with an independent zoning and planning process, and each with its own child care policies. Clearly, the work of the Child Care Coordinating Council, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, is complex. In some cities within the county, providers face few obstacles when starting up a business, while others face $1,000 in fees for conditional use permits.

The percentage of children living in San Mateo County is lower than in some neighboring counties, which requires the Child Care Coordinating Council to educate people without children, such as seniors and singles, about the benefits that child care can bring to a community as a whole. Although the child population is lower than in other counties, San Mateo schools are reporting a "baby boomlet" with enrollment on the rise. As a result, child care that had been housed in empty or excess classrooms in the public schools is being dislocated, and the county's providers are facing a shortage of facilities.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 711,002 residents, including 123,650 (17%) children under the age of 14; 87,536 (12%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 4,250 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 5,497 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 8% (9,747) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 68%; Spanish: 14%; Tagalog: 5%; Chinese: 4%. 9% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 63% of children 5 years and younger, and 69% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 35,972 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 18,346 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 45,683 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 9,137 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $172/week or $8,944 annually (86% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $112/week or $5,824 annually (56% of minimum wage)

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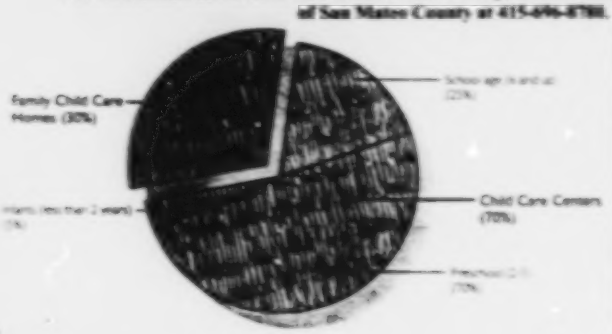
Child Care Capacity in San Mateo County

For information about child care in San Mateo County, call the Child Care Coordinating Council of San Mateo County at 415-696-8788.



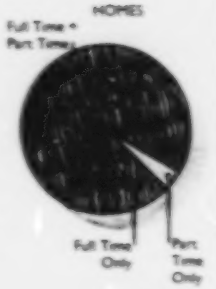
Slots

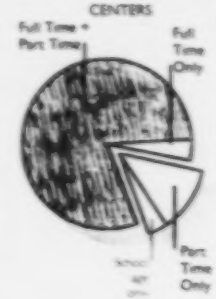
- 5,934 slots in 769 licensed family child care homes
- 14,035 slots in 255 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 86% accept children full time and part time; 10% accept children full time only; 4% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 80% accept children full time and part time; 4% accept children full time only; and 16% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 23% are in centers serving school age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 22% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 30% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 34% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (77%), school/training (11%), and seeking employment (9%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 35%; preschool care: 47%; school-age care: 18%

Family child care homes: 75%; child care centers: 66%; in-home care: 2%; other: 12%

Child care near their home: 87%; near their place of work, school, or training: 14%; near the child's school: 14%

Full-time care: 71%; part-time care: 45%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 74%; part-time care: 41%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 5%; before- and/or after-school care: 14%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 4% by Spanish-speaking providers; less than 1% by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 96% of providers speak English; 24%, Spanish; 5%, Tagalog; 1%, Chinese; less than 1%, Vietnamese; none, Korean. 2% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 35%, Spanish; 9%, Tagalog; 5%, Chinese; less than 1%, Vietnamese; none, Korean. 7% have providers who speak other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Santa Barbara County

Santa Barbara County is a mixture of urban, suburban, and rural communities. Well-known, urban, affluent Santa Barbara is the hub of the county, but the more rural northern part of the county takes up a greater number of square miles. The child care needs and demands in the county vary from area to area as a result of disparities in the cost of living and the type of community.

In the northern part of the county the cost of living is significantly lower than in the southern part of the county, and the cost of child care varies accordingly. "A family might commute from Lompoc to Santa Barbara," say staff members at Children's Resource & Referral Program, the local R&R agency. "They're bringing their kids with them so they can be in child care close to their work. They're earning more in Santa Barbara, but they're paying more for care near work."

Staff members note a high demand for infant care spaces. "We receive a lot of calls for infant-toddler care, but there are too few infant spaces, especially in center-based care. That means that parents seeking a certain type of care for their infant will find their choices quite limited. Often they want a center but they have to choose another child care option they may not prefer."

Although the city of Santa Barbara is considered an affluent community, it is not typical of the rest of the county. According to R&R staff, more than 65% of parents in the county believe they are qualified for some type of child care subsidy. Many parents feel they are in financial crisis, even before they find out the specifics of waiting lists and whether or not they actually qualify.

In a county with a high cost of living like Santa Barbara, even two-income families have trouble paying for child care.

"A mother called to find child care for her two children, an infant and a preschooler. Although her husband had a decent salary, her position was low paying and she felt it would be an extreme hardship to pay $1,100 to $1,300 a month for child care. But her family did not qualify for any subsidized child care programs in our county."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 411,104 residents, including 76,852 (19%) children under the age of 14; 50,053 (12%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 5,809 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 5,902 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 15% (11,711) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 75%; Spanish: 19%; Tagalog: 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 55% of children 5 years and younger, and 65% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 19,542 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 9,967 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 27,076 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 5,415 are in child care outside the family.
- 82% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 18% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $145/week or $7,540 annually (73% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $92/week or $4,784 annually (46% of minimum wage)

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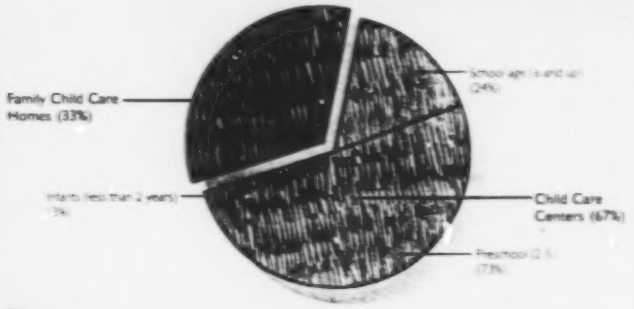
Child Care Capacity in Santa Barbara County

For information about child care in Santa Barbara County, call Children's Resource & Referral Program at 805-925-7071 or 805-963-6631.



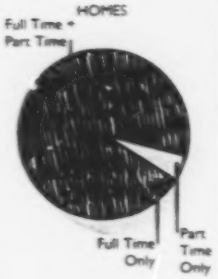
Slots

- 3,498 slots in 470 licensed family child care homes
- 6,976 slots in 143 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 89% accept children full time and part time; 6% accept children full time only; 5% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 78% accept children full time and part time; 2% accept children full time only; and 20% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 16% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 23% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 58% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 38% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (56%), school/training (22%), and seeking employment (7%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 41%; preschool care: 43%; school-age care: 16%

Family child care homes: 88%; child care centers: 53%; in-home care: 9%; other: 2%

Child care near their home: 87%; near their place of work, school, or training: 22%; near the child's school: 15%

Full-time care: 60%; part-time care: 57%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 62%; part-time care: 54%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 12%; before- and/or after-school care: 11%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 14% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 98% of providers speak English; 20%, Spanish; less than 1%, Chinese, Vietnamese. None speak Tagalog or Korean. 6% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 62%, Spanish; 1%, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese. None have providers who speak Tagalog. 4% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Santa Clara County

Santa Clara County is home to nearly 1.5 million people who represent a diversity of ethnic, cultural, and economic backgrounds. With a growing economy, the child care picture in Santa Clara County has been changing: more people appear to be finding jobs, and the demand for child care is increasing. While the county prides itself on offering a large supply and wide variety of child care options, vacancy rates are on the decline.

Although the median income in the heart of Silicon Valley is high, the cost of living and cost of child care are also high. This presents special problems for the approximately 300,000 adults who earn less than half of the median income. The county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, Community Coordinated Child Development Council of Santa Clara County, Inc., helps parents who represent a wide range of economic levels—from those who can afford to pay $1,000 a month for infant care to those whose own salaries don't equal $1,000 a month. (These families juggle funds to pay for both child care and housing.) The agency also works closely with parents of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds and the multilingual providers who serve them.

Like other Bay Area counties, long commutes to and from employment affect Santa Clara County families and their child care needs. Santa Clara also serves parents from surrounding counties (San Benito, San Mateo, San Joaquin, and Alameda) who commute to jobs in Santa Clara County and prefer child care near their place of employment.

"Many parents don't realize that some providers offer transportation. People think they are in a unique situation because they need to find transportation for their child. It is such a pleasant surprise for them when they find out that some providers can accommodate their transportation needs."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 1,629,840 residents, including 313,138 (19%) children under the age of 14; 140,442 (9%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 14,766 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 17,205 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 10% (31,971) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 68%; Spanish: 14%; Chinese: 4%; Tagalog, Vietnamese: 3%; Korean: 1%. 7% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 56% of children 5 years and younger, and 64% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 81,155 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 41,389 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 106,944 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 21,389 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $162/week or $8,424 annually (81% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $113/week or $5,876 annually (57% of minimum wage)

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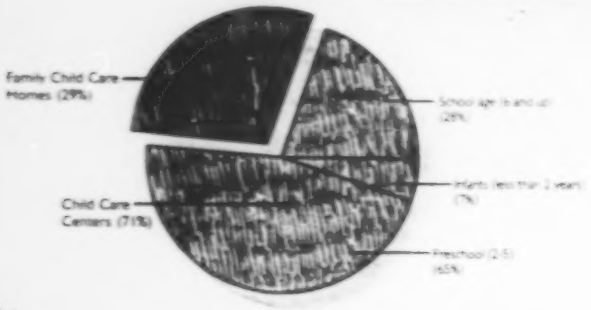
Child Care Capacity in Santa Clara County

For information about child care in Santa Clara County, call Community Coordinated Child Development Council of Santa Clara County, Inc. at 408-947-0900.



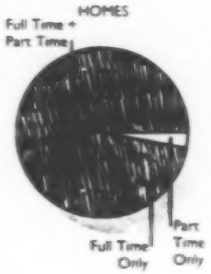
Slots

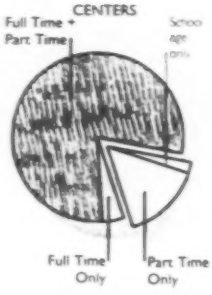
- 14,358 slots in 1,822 licensed family child care homes
- 35,115 slots in 572 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 83% accept children full time and part time; 14% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 79% accept children full time and part time; 4% accept children full time only; and 17% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 12% are in centers serving school age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 26% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 55% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 53% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (80%), seeking employment (7%), and school training (7%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 39%; preschool care: 44%; school-age care: 18%

Family child care homes: 79%; child care centers: 73%; in-home care: 3%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 77%; near their place of work, school, or training: 17%; near the child's school: 10%

Full-time care: 73%; part-time care: 35%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 76%; part-time care: 30%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 5%; before- and/or after-school care: 12%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% by Spanish-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Vietnamese-speaking providers. None requested care by Korean-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

In licensed family child care homes 97% of providers speak English; 20%, Spanish; 2%, Chinese, Tagalog; 1%, Vietnamese; less than 1%, Korean. 11% of providers speak other languages.

Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers close to 100% have providers who speak English; 39%, Spanish; 8%, Tagalog; 5%, Chinese; 4%, Vietnamese; 1%, Korean. 18% have providers who speak other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Santa Cruz County

The small coastal county of Santa Cruz is marked by distinct rural, urban, and mountain communities. Geographically and culturally diverse, some areas of the county are home to large Latino populations. The county's major employers are the government and the University of California at Santa Cruz. While the influx of high technology companies has created some higher paying employment, many residents work in low paying service industry and agricultural jobs.

The high costs of living, the loss of food processing plants, and low wages for many residents combined with above average costs for child care, have made the need for subsidized care the county's greatest child care concern. Many low- and middle-income parents cannot afford care and rely on informal and "patchwork" child care arrangements. As a result, the number of requests for child care has decreased and the number of vacancies in licensed facilities has increased. Many Santa Cruz child care providers do not operate at full capacity.

Santa Cruz is unique. Local communities and government agencies provide a great deal of support for child care throughout the county. Every city, as well as the county itself, contributes funds through community grant programs, and developer fees are levied for facilities and improvements to maintain or expand child care capacity.

"We recently worked with a woman who was looking for subsidized care for an infant. She had been leaving the baby with her seven-year-old son so she could go to work. Interestingly, she had contacted us looking for infant care—not care for the seven-year-old, too. Sadly, this is indicative of the situation for many families."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 244,738 residents, including 46,290 (19%) children under the age of 14; 27,916 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 2,485 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 2,879 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 12% (5,364) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 79%; Spanish: 16%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 55% of children 5 years and younger, and 65% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 11,582 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 5,907 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 16,329 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 3,266 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $161/week or $8,372 annually (81% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $113/week or $5,876 annually (57% of minimum wage)

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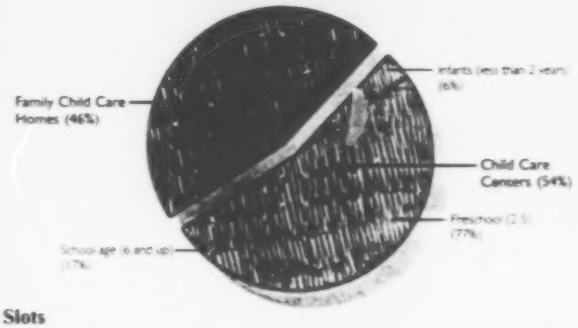
Child Care Capacity in Santa Cruz County

For information about child care in Santa Cruz County, call the Child Development Resource Center at 408-479-5252.



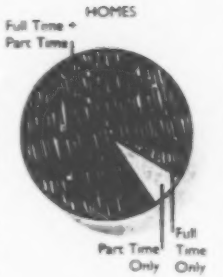
Slots

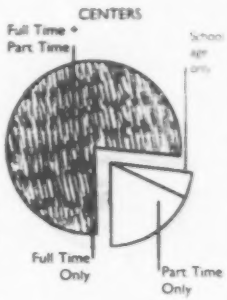
- 3,204 slots in 397 licensed family child care homes
- 3,760 slots in 101 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 89% accept children full time and part time; 4% accept children full time only; 7% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 76% accept children full time and part time; 1% accept children full time only; and 22% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 22% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 26% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 63% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 48% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (80%), school/training (10%), and child enrichment (6%). Other reasons include other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 35%; preschool care: 44%; school-age care: 21%

Family child care homes: 87%; child care centers: 64%; in-home care: 12%

Child care near their home: 77%; near their place of work, school, or training: 20%; near the child's school: 13%

Full-time care: 45%; part-time care: 57%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 47%; part-time care: 54%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 7%; before- and/or after-school care: 8%

97% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 11% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 96% of providers speak English; 24%, Spanish; less than 1%, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese; none, Korean. 6% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 54%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 3% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Shasta County

"The number of working parents we serve is definitely increasing, including those in training and those re-entering the work force. Many parents are also in need of financial assistance—parents are just unable to afford child care, even though they are working."

Shasta County is best known for Lake Shasta and the recreational opportunities and beauty it provides to visitors, residents, and a growing number of retirees.

Like other parts of Northern California, Shasta continues to feel the economic impact of the decline of the timber industry. Despite these job losses, the region is growing in population and, with the arrival of major retail employers such as Wal-Mart, Target, and Circuit City, new jobs have been created. Shasta's major population center, Redding, is fast becoming the northern hub for the trucking industry.

The economic changes and declining wages have increased the number of two-parent working families, parents in retraining or education programs, and families seeking child care resources and referrals. The change in employment in Shasta County—to less permanent, part-time, and weekend hours—has increased the demand for flexible child care. Infant care and before- and after-care at school sites is also in demand. When care is unavailable at a particular school, parents must transport their children from one location to another during a work break or make other transportation arrangements. Like many rural counties, finding care for those living or working in outlying areas is a challenge.

The number of parents seeking child care resources and referrals sharply increases when the Shasta and Simpson College school year begins. Unsure about school plans and financial arrangements, many students wait until the last minute to seek child care. Early Childhood Services, Shasta County's resource and referral agency (R&R), works closely with parents who are trying to balance the costs of work, school, and child care. "Often, a parent will call and say, 'I'm going to lose my job if I lose one more day of work, but I simply can't afford child care.' People who are eligible for subsidies are put on the waiting list. It is heart-wrenching for the staff, because some parents have immediate needs and they have very few options... and we can only help so much."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 177,770 residents, including 38,813 (22%) children under the age of 14; 25,126 (14%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 3,816 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 4,130 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 20% (7,946) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 95%; Spanish: 2%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 19 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 45% of children 5 years and younger, and 55% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 7,348 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 3,747 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 12,286 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 2,457 are in child care outside the family.
- 79% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 21% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $98/week or $5,096 annually (49% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $63/week or $3,276 annually (32% of minimum wage)

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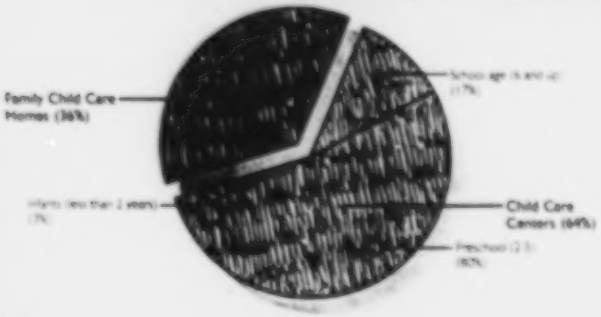
Child Care Capacity in Shasta County

For information about child care in Shasta County, call Early Childhood Services—Shasta County Office of Education at 916-224-3200.



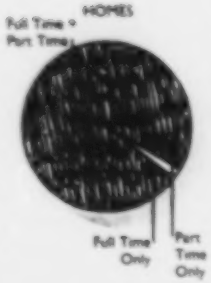
Slots

- 1,428 slots in 161 licensed family child care homes
- 2,565 slots in 51 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 89% accept children full time and part time; 8% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 70% accept children full time and part time; 2% accept children full time only; and 28% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 12% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 40% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 65% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 52% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (76%), school/training (15%), and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 27%; preschool care: 45%; school-age care: 28%

Family child care homes: 70%; child care centers: 34%; in-home care: 3%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 76%; near their place of work, school, or training: 16%; near the child's school: 12%

Full-time care: 38%; part-time care: 67%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 40%; part-time care: 62%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 5%; before- and/or after-school care: 14%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; less than 1% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English; 1%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Sierra County

This rural county in the Sierra Nevada mountains is distinguished by rugged terrain and sparse population. The county includes Sierra City, a former gold mining town located at the foot of the Sierra Butte summits; Loyalton, an incorporated township with two-thirds of the county's population; and tiny Downieville, one of the least populated county seats in the nation. Unlike the mountain area, the Sierra Valley is primarily dependent on ranching.

According to staff at Sierra Nevada Children's Services, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, many Sierra County residents are retirees, small business owners, or employed in the service industry. Those families seeking child care often need flexible care to cover irregular work hours and schedules that change from one week to the next. For the region's many retirees, jobs and child care are not concerns—unless they unexpectedly find themselves part of the increasing number of grandparents raising their grandchildren.

In many respects, child care in Sierra County is in its nascent stages. Although there is less demand for child care and children's programs than in larger, neighboring Nevada County (which is also served by Sierra Nevada Children's Services) there is also less supply; only one child care center exists in the entire county and there is informal before- and after-school care. The county's Head Start programs are home-based.

"Providers are spread out all over the county and people are forced to make long commutes to find child care. But they don't complain, it's just a fact of life."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 3,350 residents, including 616 (18%) children under the age of 14; 885 (26%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 11 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 43 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 9% (54) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 93%; Spanish: 3%; Vietnamese: 1%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 5 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 46% of children 5 years and younger, and 45% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 113 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 58 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 168 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 34 are in child care outside the family.
- 80% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 20% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $65 week or $3,380 annually (33% of minimum wage)

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Child Care Capacity in Sierra County

For information about child care in Sierra County, call Sierra Nevada Children's Services at 916-289-3666 in Downieville, or 916-993-1288 in Loyalton.

Slots

- 60 slots in 9 licensed family child care homes
- 21 slots in 1 licensed child care center

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 80% accept children full time and part time; 10% accept children full time only; 10% accept children part time only.
- The county's single licensed child care center accepts children full time and part time.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 22% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 100% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- The county's single licensed child care center does not provide evening, overnight, or weekend care; it does not offer before- and/or after-school care.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English. None speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Providers at the county's single licensed child care center speak English and no other languages.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (92%) and seeking employment (8%).

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 35%; preschool care: 30%; school-age care: 35%

Family child care homes: 85%; in-home care: 30%; other: 10%

Child care near their home: 65%; near their place of work, school, or training: 45%; near the child's school: 5%

Full-time care: 39%; part-time care: 61%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 36%; part-time care: 64%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 40%

92% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 8% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Siskiyou County

"The kind of work available for adults in Siskiyou County affects the kind of child care needed. We have a good deal of seasonal workers, some college students, and many Forest Service, CalTrans, and restaurant employees who need child care during irregular and changing hours."

Largely remote, predominantly low-income, and entirely rural, most of Siskiyou's population and services such as child care, are concentrated along the I-5 corridor in small towns such as Weed, Mt. Shasta, Yreka, and Dunsmuir. Finding child care in areas off this route is a formidable challenge for many families. Fortunately, however, the number of parents seeking care in these communities is relatively small, and there are areas with a large number of family farms where both parents work at home, eliminating the need for formalized child care.

Finding child care for Siskiyou's many non-traditional and long-hour workers employed by the U.S. Forest Service (which requires 24-hour shifts), CalTrans, restaurant employees, and service industry workers—is another challenge; there is little evening care in the county, and very few providers who offer weekend care. The student population from the College of the Siskiyous in Weed and Yreka also affects the child care picture. Student parents seek care during the school year, but have no need for care during summer months, forcing providers to become seasonal workers.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 46,961 residents, including 9,992 (21%) children under the age of 14; 7,773 (17%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 986 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 1,134 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 21% (2,120) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 93%; Spanish: 4%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 17 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 43% of children 5 years and younger, and 56% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 1,716 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 875 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 3,356 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 671 are in child care outside the family.
- 80% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 20% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $88/week or $4,576 annually (44% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $65/week or $3,380 annually (33% of minimum wage)

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Child Care Capacity in Siskiyou County

For information about child care in Siskiyou County, call Siskiyou Child Care Council at 916-938-2748.

Slots

- 276 slots in 37 licensed family child care homes
- 580 slots in 17 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 97% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 85% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 15% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 38% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 88% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 5% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 65% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (56%), school/training (17%), and other parent needs (10%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, and child enrichment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 30%; preschool care: 44%; school-age care: 26%

Family child care homes: 76%; child care centers: 32%; in-home care: 11%; other: 7%

Child care near their home: 81%; near their place of work, school, or training: 36%; near the child's school: 5%

Full-time care: 19%; part-time care: 81%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 22%; part-time care: 78%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 17%; before- and/or after-school care: 8%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 11%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 3% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 30%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 25% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Solano County

Solano County has a range of rural agricultural communities, such as Dixon and Rio Vista, suburban areas, like Fairfield and Vacaville, and urban centers, such as the city of Vallejo. Divided by the I-80 corridor, many residents of this growing region commute to jobs in San Francisco, Oakland, and Sacramento. New biotechnology corporations, health care companies, and Travis Air Force Base account for many jobs within county lines.

City dwellers, suburban commuters, and parents stationed at Travis Air Force Base, contribute to the varied child care needs of Solano families. Long hours of care are needed to accommodate commuting parents, the supply of child care lags behind new housing development, and a large special needs population presents unique challenges.

Due to the establishment of a medical facility at Travis Air Force Base for children with special needs, there is an exceptionally high demand for providers who have the special training necessary to care for these children.

Subsidized child care, too, is an increasingly important issue in Solano County. Many parents who contact Solano Family & Children's Council, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, need help meeting the costs of child care. However, few subsidized child care centers exist and often there are not enough subsidies available for parents who need to attend training programs or search for jobs.

"There is a growing number of single parents—and even two-parent working families—who need financial assistance. We have a two-year waiting list for child care subsidies and we don't have a large number of subsidized centers to meet this increasing need."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 419,120 residents, including 97,926 (23%) children under the age of 14; 34,291 (8%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 4,918 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 5,375 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 11% (10,293) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 81%; Spanish: 8%; Tagalog: 6%; Chinese: 1%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 55% of children 5 years and younger, and 67% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 23,735 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 12,105 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 36,391 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 7,278 are in child care outside the family.
- 77% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 23% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $154/week or $8,008 annually (77% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $105/week or $5,460 annually (53% of minimum wage)

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Child Care Capacity in Solano County

For information about child care in Solano County, call Solano Family & Children's Council at 707-427-6600.

Slots

- 6,555 slots in 879 licensed family child care homes
- 5,164 slots in 89 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 84% accept children full time and part time; 14% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 82% accept children full time and part time; 2% accept children full time only; and 15% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 29% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 78% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 64% offer before- and/or after-school care.

Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (82%), school/training (8%), and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: other parent needs and child enrichment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 29%; preschool care: 44%; school-age care: 27%

Family child care homes: 90%; child care centers: 49%; in-home care: 7%; other: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 96%; near their place of work, school, or training: 6%

Full-time care: 62%; part-time care: 41%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 71%; part-time care: 30%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 14%; before- and/or after-school care: 19%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% by Spanish-speaking providers. Less than 1% requested care by Chinese-speaking providers. None requested care by Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English; 9%, Spanish; 7%, Tagalog; 1%, Chinese; less than 1%, Korean, Vietnamese. 5% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 26%, Spanish; 7%, Tagalog; none, Chinese, Korean, or Vietnamese. 16% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more languages), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Sonoma County

"There is a misconception that child care is only for younger children and that child care is only a problem for low-income people."

With its reputation for "country living" near the Bay Area, Sonoma County attracts young families seeking affordable housing and affluent baby boomers looking for a better quality of life. Because it is considered by many to be a good place to raise children, calls come into Sonoma County's two resource & referral (R&R) agencies from all parts of the country as parents consider a move and investigate their child care options.

Residents of Sonoma County tend to either commute south to jobs in Bay Area cities or work in the county's tourism, small business, and service industries. Overall, the county has a fair number of child care providers, although like many counties the need for providers who offer infant care and the rate of provider turnover are both high. Child care needs vary somewhat from community to community: the northern part of the county has a greater demand for infant, school-age, and subsidized care while the southern region is in need of preschool care.

4Cs and River Child Care Services work hard to educate parents about choosing the right kind of quality child care. A good deal of time is also spent with single mothers—and the increasing number of single fathers—who need financial support. R&R staff members also pride themselves on having a sufficient number of Spanish-speaking staff to assist Spanish-speaking families and child care providers.

Some parents understand the need for quality child care, but cannot afford to pay for it on their own. As one staff member explained, "If you're part of the working poor, you are almost better off to stay on AFDC and work part time, especially if you need care for more than one child. We worked with one woman who was making $7 an hour. The combined child care costs for her three children were higher than what she brings home each month."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 440,099 residents, including 87,696 (20%) children under the age of 14; 59,153 (13%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 3,668 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 4,608 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 9% (8,276) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 87%; Spanish: 7%. 6% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 57% of children 5 years and younger, and 67% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 22,166 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 11,305 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 32,873 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 6,575 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $137/week or $7,124 annually (69% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $106/week or $5,512 annually (53% of minimum wage)

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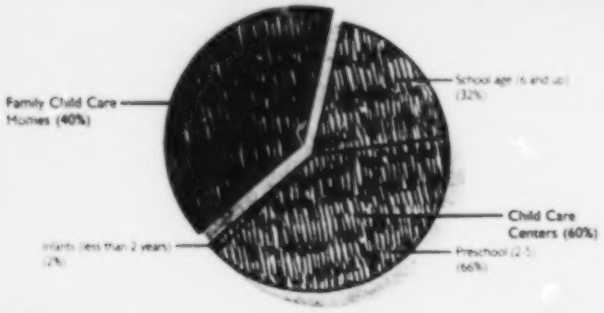
Child Care Capacity in Sonoma County

For information about child care in Sonoma County, call 4Cs of Sonoma County at 707-544-3084 or River Child Care Services at 707-869-3613.



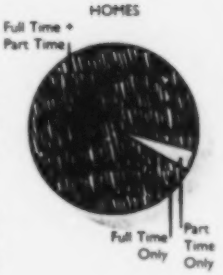
Slots

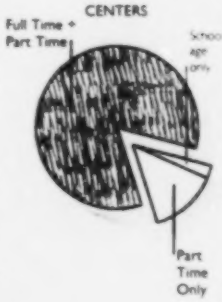
- 5,652 slots in 789 licensed family child care homes
- 8,641 slots in 185 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 91% accept children full time and part time; 5% accept children full time only; 4% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 84% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 16% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 16% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 22% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 76% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 2% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 64% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (76%) and school/training (10%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 34%; preschool care: 48%; school-age care: 18%

Family child care homes: 85%; child care centers: 32%; in-home care: 6%; other: 2%

Child care near their home: 83%; near their place of work, school, or training: 26%; near the child's school: 1%

Full-time care: 58%; part-time care: 56%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 61%; part-time care: 54%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 6%; before- and/or after-school care: 9%

94% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 8% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 7%, Spanish; less than 1%, Chinese, Tagalog; none, Korean or Vietnamese. 2% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 45%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 1% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Stanislaus County

"People call for referrals because they're employed. In this county, more than half of all women with children under age eighteen are in the labor force."

Stanislaus County grows much of California's food, and is home to numerous canneries and the Gallo winery. Like other rural, agriculturally-based counties, Stanislaus residents often earn low wages, work long or non-traditional shifts, and must commute great distances to both work and services.

"There is always a need for 24-hour providers," say staff members at Stanislaus County Office of Education, Child Development Department, the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency. "Many parents work swing or graveyard shifts and are looking for care during non-traditional hours."

Finding care, particularly for infants, can be difficult in some areas, including Modesto. Another frequent obstacle is the lack of transportation and off-track care for school-age children. According to R&R staff, "Off-track care can be a challenge to find for children who only need care during school breaks." There is also an inadequate number of child care centers and family child care homes that have the ability to serve special needs children.

Since agricultural economies pay low wages, rural populations tend to have a high need for subsidized care, even among working parents. Because subsidy funds are so limited, many of these parents cannot be served.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 452,861 residents, including 112,166 (25%) children under the age of 14; 49,109 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 11,366 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 12,159 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 21% (23,525) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 75%; Spanish: 16%. 9% of residents speak at least one of 19 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 46% of children 5 years and younger, and 56% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 22,652 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 11,552 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 35,025 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 7,005 are in child care outside the family.
- 77% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 23% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5 hour ($10,400 year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $120 week or $6,240 annually (60% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2-5 years old in a licensed child care center: $90 week or $4,680 annually (45% of minimum wage)

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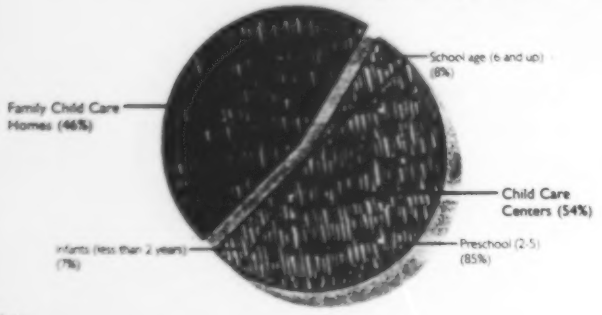
Child Care Capacity in Stanislaus County

For information about child care in Stanislaus County, call the Stanislaus County Office of Education, Child Development Department at 209-525-5049.



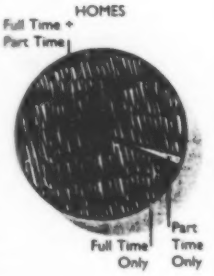
Slots

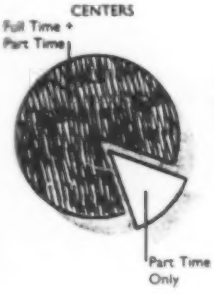
- 4,506 slots in 532 licensed family child care homes
- 5,333 slots in 87 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 87% accept children full time and part time; 10% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 86% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 14% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 31% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 81% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 3% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 50% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (80%) and school/training (13%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, back-up care, mildly ill care, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 25%; preschool care: 46%; school-age care: 29%

Family child care homes: 96%; child care centers: 82%; in-home care: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 69%; near their place of work, school, or training: 6%; near the child's school: 38%

Full-time care: 74%; part-time care: 41%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 78%; part-time care: 32%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 12%; before- and/or after-school care: 23%

Close to 100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 99% of providers speak English; 8%, Spanish; less than 1%, Tagalog, Vietnamese. None speak Chinese or Korean. 7% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 99% have providers who speak English; 44%, Spanish; 1%, Vietnamese. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, or Korean. 9% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Sutter County

"Families move back and forth between Sutter and Yuba counties often, and many of the child care issues are so similar that the county line is barely noticeable. As an agency, we're able to serve families in both counties and see issues developing on a regional basis."

Both Sutter County and its neighbor, Yuba County, are rural, have some light industry, and are heavily dependent on the agricultural industry. Yet despite the many similarities between the two counties, Sutter has a larger and more steadily growing population, a wider range of incomes, and overall, a higher standard of living.

As Sutter County's population grows, so does the demand for child care options. Those parents who work in Sacramento face long commutes and need extra hours of child care each day. Few flexible care options exist, however, and the number of child care centers and infant care providers is low. Many tiny towns in Sutter's outlying areas (close to Colusa County) have no licensed family child care providers at all.

Both Sutter and Yuba County are served by the Children's Home Society of California, a private, nonprofit child welfare agency. The agency serves the child care resource and referral (R&R) needs and family service needs in Sutter and Yuba counties, and has other offices throughout California.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 79,424 residents, including 18,139 (23%) children under the age of 14; 9,477 (12%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 2,086 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 2,121 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 23% (4,207) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 78%; Spanish: 12%. 10% of residents speak at least one of 16 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 47% of children 5 years and younger, and 59% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 3,836 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 1,956 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 5,895 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 1,179 are in child care outside the family.
- 83% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 17% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $113/week or $5,876 annually (57% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2-5 years old in a licensed child care center: $85/week or $4,420 annually (43% of minimum wage)

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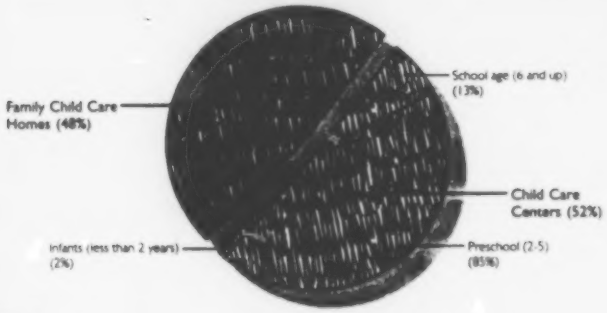
Child Care Capacity in Sutter County

For information about child care in Sutter County, call the Children's Home Society of California at 916-673-7503.



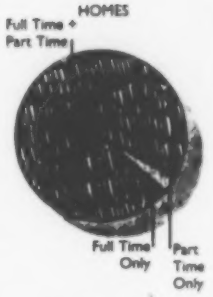
Slots

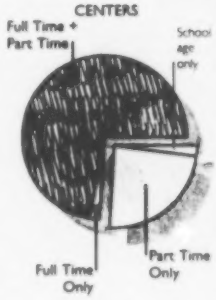
- 1,344 slots in 149 licensed family child care homes
- 1,455 slots in 31 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 96% accept children full time and part time; 1% accept children full time only; 3% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 71% accept children full time and part time; 2% accept children full time only; and 26% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 8% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 30% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 97% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 3% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 46% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (62%), school/training (29%), and seeking employment (8%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 24%; preschool care: 45%; school-age care: 32%

Family child care homes: 96%; child care centers: 86%; in-home care: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 37%; near their place of work, school, or training: 11%; near the child's school: 4%; other location/no preference: 61%

Full-time care: 48%; part-time care: 59%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 56%; part-time care: 51%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 24%; before- and/or after-school care: 22%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 7% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 7%, Spanish; 1%, Chinese. None speak Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 3% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 43%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 17% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Tehama County

Tehama is a rural county with diverse geography: broad plains are bordered by the Sierra Nevada and Pacific Coast ranges and divided by the Sacramento River. The abundance of pasture, range land, and forests makes agriculture, ranching, and recreation important industries. Many Tehama residents work in Red Bluff, the main population center, or commute outside the county to jobs in Redding or Chico.

Like many of its neighboring counties, Tehama is undergoing an economic transition. The decline of the lumber and wood products industries has hurt manufacturing, and while the arrival of the Wal-Mart Distribution Center meant hundreds of new jobs, many are shift work and irregular hours.

While the county's child care needs have remained steady—and largely met—there has been a continual shortage of quality infant care. In addition, the growing demand for flexible care—i.e., weekend, swing shift, overnight, part-time, and drop-in—is a new challenge brought about by the new jobs.

"For many families throughout Tehama County, finding a child care provider who will transport children to and from school to care is an ongoing issue," said a staff member at the local resource and referral (R&R) agency. "Years ago we sponsored a very successful 'Provider Play Day,' bringing children and providers from throughout the area together for a day of fun, games, and sharing. Recently, we tried to bring the program back to life, but we met with little success. For liability reasons many providers just do not transport children. The transportation problems leave parents with fewer care options."

"It's heartbreaking when new moms have difficulty finding infant care. Often new parents are scared, they don't know what to expect, and they face tough economic choices when they find out the costs. Fortunately, we can help. We give reassurance, inform them about the process, and help them make the best choice for their families."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 58,903 residents, including 12,823 (22%) children under the age of 14; 9,976 (17%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 1,332 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 1,701 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 24% (3,033) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 90%; Spanish: 8%. 2% of residents speak at least one of 14 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 41% of children 5 years and younger, and 52% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 2,140 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 1,091 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 3,990 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 798 are in child care outside the family.
- 77% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 23% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $90/week or $4,680 annually (45% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $66/week or $3,432 annually (33% of minimum wage)

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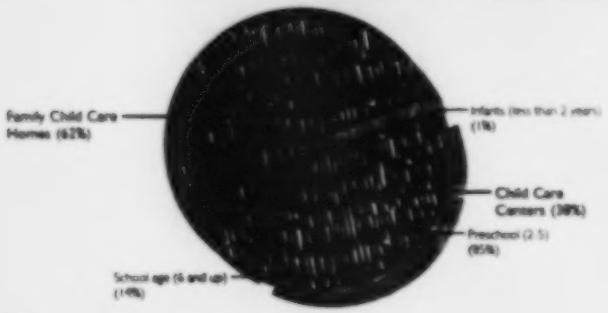
Child Care Capacity in Tehama County

For information about child care in Tehama County, call Shasta County Office of Education, Child Care Referral and Education at 916-529-3131.



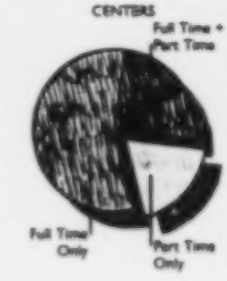
Slots

- 702 slots in 99 licensed family child care homes
- 436 slots in 15 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 99% accept children full time and part time; 1% accept children full time only. None accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 25% accept children full time and part time; 56% accept children full time only; and 19% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 61% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 90% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 13% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (83%) and school/training (10%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 24%; preschool care: 51%; school-age care: 25%

Family child care homes: 92%; child care centers: 9%

Child care near their home: 57%; near their place of work, school, or training: 32%; near the child's school: 10%

Full-time care: 45%; part-time care: 55%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 49%; part-time care: 51%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 6%; before- and/or after-school care: 2%

98% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 2% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 4%, Spanish; 3%, Korean; none, Chinese, Tagalog, or Vietnamese. 1% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 13%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

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Trinity County

"The region is interesting because many people who live here are attracted to the solitude and isolation that Trinity County provides. But this isolation does affect child care: some areas are a two to three hour drive from Weaverville, which makes site visits and training sessions a real challenge."

Spanning a large geographic region in northwest California, Trinity County is home to a population of approximately 13,000, most of which is concentrated in the towns of Weaverville and Hayfork. Like neighboring counties, the lumber industry has historically fueled Trinity's economy.

With mills closing and Trinity in the midst of economic transition, the Human Response Network, the county's child care resource and referral (R&R) agency often collaborates with other agencies to develop community support projects—from job link and retraining programs to emergency response efforts—in addition to meeting Trinity's child care and family support needs.

Trinity County's greatest child care demand is for flexible care to cover night, swing and weekend shifts. Although employment is the overriding reason parents seek child care, there has been a change over the years in the perception of its value and importance for child development. "When I came here 11 years ago, there was no Head Start, no licensed centers at all," says an R&R staff member. "With a greater influx of people from urban areas, there has been a change in consciousness about child care. We've seen a greater demand for preschool programs and child care for social experiences."

"I recently worked with a licensed child care provider in Humboldt County who was calling for one of her parents, a single mom. The mother needed to find child care in Trinity, but since she worked 12 hours a day in off-hour shifts, she could not reach me. I was able to network the information to the parent through the provider, and we were successful in meeting the family's needs."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 14,168 residents, including 2,948 (21%) children under the age of 14; 2,125 (15%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 318 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 481 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 27% (799) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 95%; Spanish: 2%. 3% of residents speak at least one of 10 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 46% of children 5 years and younger, and 55% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 527 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 269 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 991 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 198 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $90/week or $4,680 annually (45% of minimum wage)

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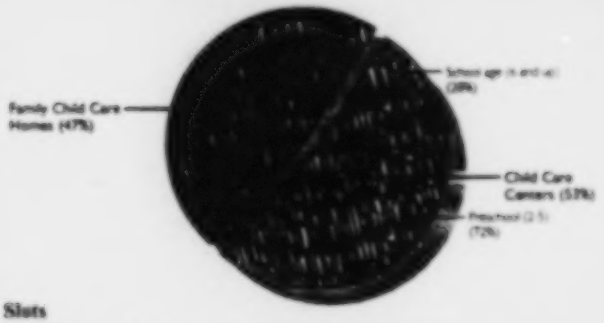
Child Care Capacity in Trinity County

For information about child care in Trinity County, call Human Response Network at 916-623-2542.



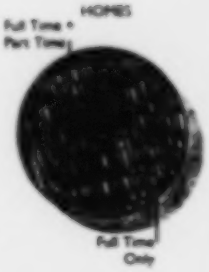
Slots

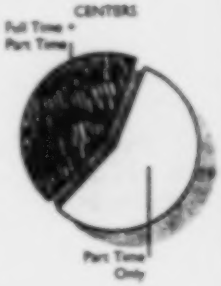
- 132 slots in 19 licensed family child care homes
- 150 slots in 8 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 85% accept children full time and part time; 15% accept children full time only. None accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 44% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 56% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 59% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 76% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 33% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (79%), school/training (11%), and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 18%; preschool care: 41%; school-age care: 41%

Family child care homes: 89%; child care centers: 30%; in-home care: 7%; other: 21%

Child care near their home: 61%; near their place of work, school, or training: 51%; near the child's school: 5%; other location/no preference: 10%

Full-time care: 33%; part-time care: 67%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 19%; part-time care: 81%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 36%; before- and/or after-school care: 13%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English. None speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 33%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

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Tulare County

"We hear from parents all the time who say, 'If it wasn't for child care I would still be on welfare.'"

Located between Fresno and Bakersfield in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, Tulare County's geography ranges from agricultural flatlands to Sierra foothills, and encompasses Sequoia National Park and part of the Kings Canyon National Park.

The county's industry is mostly agricultural. Lower wages go hand in hand with agricultural work, and the county has one of the lowest family incomes in the state as well as "double digit unemployment," according to resource and referral agency (R&R) staff at the Tulare County Office of Education. As a result, the county's demand for subsidized care is high.

About half the county population is Hispanic, and R&R staff members say there is a need for Spanish-speaking providers. And, because most of the county's jobs are in agriculture and service industries, parents need non-traditional hours and weekend care that corresponds with their work schedules. New year-round school schedules have also created the necessity for full-time care for school-age children during off-track times of the year.

Weather, too, adds to the county's child care burden. Schools in Tulare County, like those in many counties in the San Joaquin Valley, have "foggy day" schedules. Thick fog rolls in during winter months, eliminating visibility and making driving hazardous. Schools open several hours later on these days, creating a sudden need for drop-in morning care throughout the county.

The R&R staff has seen an increase in custodial grandparents. "We've been hearing from a lot of grandparents who have custody of their grandchildren. Many of them didn't really want custody, but of course they are going to help their families. Now they have to search for child care and they haven't dealt with this issue for years, if at all. These people don't know how to find providers or how to find help paying for child care. They don't know how the system works, so they really need the R&R's help."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 379,056 residents, including 101,892 (27%) children under the age of 14; 40,671 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 15,417 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 18,251 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 33% (33,668) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 64%; Spanish: 30%; Tagalog: 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 19 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 44% of children 5 years and younger, and 57% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 18,706 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 9,540 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 33,789 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 6,758 are in child care outside the family.
- 81% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 19% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $87/week or $4,524 annually (44% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $68/week or $3,536 annually (34% of minimum wage)

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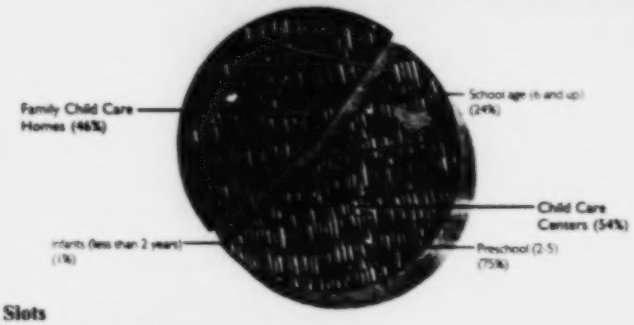
Child Care Capacity in Tulare County

For information about child care in Tulare County, call the Tulare County Office of Education—Child Care Resource & Referral at 209-651-0862.



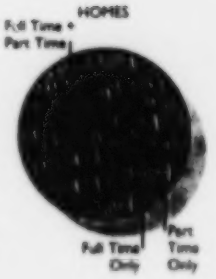
Slots

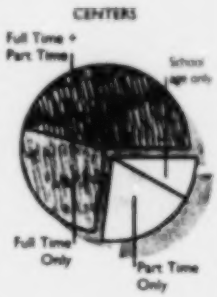
- 3,714 slots in 422 licensed family child care homes
- 4,393 slots in 90 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 79% accept children full time and part time; 20% accept children full time only; 1% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 46% accept children full time and part time; 27% accept children full time only; and 27% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 30% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 24% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 83% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 1% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 41% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (59%), school/training (28%), and seeking employment (8%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 32%; preschool care: 43%; school-age care: 24%

Family child care homes: 94%; child care centers: 28%; in-home care: 1%; other: 6%

Child care near their home: 92%; near their place of work, school, or training: 10%; near the child's school: 12%

Full-time care: 72%; part-time care: 48%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 70%; part-time care: 41%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 20%; before- and/or after-school care: 27%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 14% by Spanish-speaking providers; less than 1% by Vietnamese-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, or Korean-speaking providers. 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes close to 100% of providers speak English; 23%, Spanish; and less than 1%, Tagalog. None speak Chinese, Korean, or Vietnamese. 2% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 77%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog. None have providers who speak Chinese, Korean, or Vietnamese. 4% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Tuolumne County

Tuolumne County has a spectacular rural landscape and is home to people who enjoy the beauty and isolation of mountain living. Once a county rich in gold and timber, recent changes in economic conditions have forced many residents to turn to service industry jobs that offer minimum wage for part-time hours. The population and school enrollment have both decreased as a result.

Some of the county's best paying jobs are found at the prison and the hospital—each of which require long and odd-hour shifts. To satisfy the need for child care during irregular hours, the staff at Tuolumne County's resource and referral (R&R) agency, Infant/Child Enrichment Services, believes that many parents turn to non-licensed sources of care: "Providers have a hard time accommodating the flexible part-day schedules. If they decide to take some part-day kids, they must juggle schedules. Yet, there's not enough demand for providers to make a living by just offering nontraditional care schedules."

Even though Tuolumne County has a relatively large supply of child care providers, the demand for flexible care is always great. "If the children's ages are different and the parent has a changing or non-traditional work schedule, it can be almost impossible to find a simple child care solution. We worked with a substitute teacher who needed child care for all three of her kids—ages 3 months, 2, and 4 years—and wanted care at the same place. Unfortunately, we don't even have infant care centers and a lot of family day care home providers won't take a baby. Others won't take children *over* three years old. And no one would ever have three drop-in slots to accommodate her shifting work schedule."

"People are working part time, during the weekends, and evenings, for less pay, and the need for flexible care has increased dramatically."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 58,724 residents, including 10,485 (18%) children under the age of 14; 9,682 (16%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 764 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 691 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 14% (1,455) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 92%; Spanish: 6%. 2% of residents speak at least one of 15 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 46% of children 5 years and younger, and 65% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 1,878 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 958 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 4,139 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 828 are in child care outside the family.
- 79% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 21% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $77/week or $4,004 annually (39% of minimum wage)

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Child Care Capacity in Tuolumne County

For information about child care in Tuolumne County, call Infant/Child Enrichment Services at 209-533-8377.

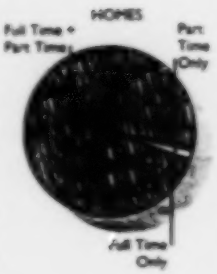
Slots

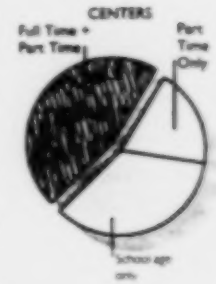
- 400 slots in 59 licensed family child care homes
- 712 slots in 20 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 91% accept children full time and part time; 8% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 46% accept children full time and part time. None accept children full time only; and 54% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 65% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 46% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 64% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 48% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (78%), school/training (9%), and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: referred by CPS or other professional, mildly ill care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 30%; preschool care: 42%; school-age care: 28%

Family child care homes: 92%; child care centers: 18%; in-home care: 2%

Child care near their home: 88%; near their place of work, school, or training: 30%; near the child's school: 3%

Full-time care: 48%; part-time care: 52%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 49%; part-time care: 51%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 29%; before- and/or after-school care: 9%

100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers. None requested care by Spanish-, Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 2%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English. None have providers who speak Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese, or other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Ventura County

"Some communities have very few child care options in comparison with others that have several. Within the City of Oxnard there may be 100 providers within a mile radius in some neighborhoods and only two providers as you travel toward the ocean. This unequal distribution of child care providers is a big problem for many parents."

Bordered by Los Angeles to the south and Santa Barbara to the north, Ventura County consists of several metropolitan areas, small agricultural communities, and resort areas. Like much of Southern California, vast economic and cultural differences exist throughout the county. According to staff members at Child Development Resources of Ventura County, Inc., the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency, the county's agricultural industry depends on migrant farm workers who require subsidized child care. Similarly, several large employers in the county have gone out of business recently. As a result, former employees have been forced to work off-hours or on part-time schedules in the retail sector, which in turn leads to a need for flexible child care.

Overall, Ventura County has a relatively high cost of living. Much of the county serves as a bedroom community for Los Angeles, with parents making lengthy commutes that necessitate long hours of child care. Throughout the county, however, the availability of child care varies considerably from one community to the next. Some communities have a high number of child care centers while others of similar size have very few.

The R&R has piloted several projects, including one to increase school-age slots in family child care homes, which have affected child care in the county and the state. "A few years ago, we trained close to 500 child care providers through the Family-to-Family Child Care Aware Project," say R&R staff members. "As a result, we're getting away from the babysitter mentality. Providers have a new outlook and the quality of care has improved. But another result has been that costs have gone up. When people become trained, they naturally want more money. This has had a real impact on low-income parents."

The county has also worked collaboratively with other community agencies to enhance the quality of child care through the Family Preservation and Support Programs.

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 737,672 residents, including 160,068 (22%) children under the age of 14; 68,716 (9%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 7,356 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 8,690 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 10% (16,046) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 74%; Spanish: 20%; Chinese, Tagalog: 1%. 4% of residents speak at least one of 20 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 55% of children 5 years and younger, and 65% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 39,117 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 19,950 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 57,693 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 11,539 are in child care outside the family.
- 84% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 16% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $144/week or $7,488 annually (72% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $95/week or $4,940 annually (48% of minimum wage)

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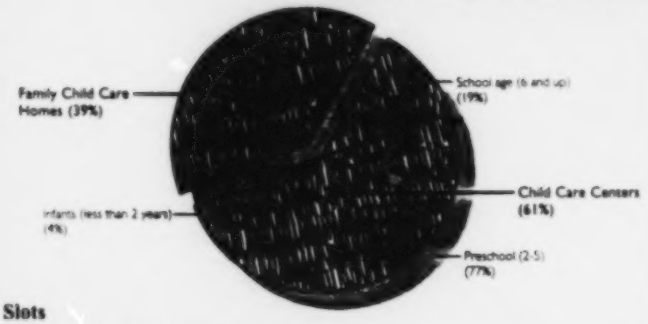
Child Care Capacity in Ventura County

For information about child care in Ventura County, call Child Development Resources of Ventura County, Inc. at 805-485-7878.



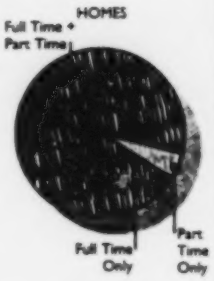
Slots

- 7,872 slots in 1,120 licensed family child care homes
- 12,561 slots in 194 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 78% accept children full time and part time; 17% accept children full time only; 5% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 79% accept children full time and part time; 2% accept children full time only; and 19% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 5% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 21% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 68% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 3% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 48% offer before- and/or after-school care.



Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (73%) and school/training (11%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, back-up care, child enrichment, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 37%; preschool care: 42%; school-age care: 21%

Family child care homes: 95%; child care centers: 53%; in-home care: 8%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 87%; near their place of work, school, or training: 11%; near the child's school: 11%

Full-time care: 67%; part-time care: 38%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 72%; part-time care: 32%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 9%; before- and/or after-school care: 15%

Close to 100% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 1% by Spanish-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Tagalog-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers, or by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 98% of providers speak English; 20%, Spanish; 1%, Tagalog; less than 1%, Chinese, Korean. None speak Vietnamese. 5% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 35%, Spanish; 1%, Chinese, Tagalog; less than 1%, Korean. None have providers who speak Vietnamese. 7% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Yolo County

"We experience the whole spectrum of parental planning —or lack of planning. Some people call us before they're even pregnant while others call the same day they need care."

Yolo is a rural, agriculturally-based county, dotted with suburban communities and increasingly dense population centers. Warehousing and processing businesses, which rely heavily on round-the-clock work schedules, are concentrated in some areas of the county, which has created greater need for child care during nontraditional hours. "We could certainly use additional infant care and part-time care," say staff members at Child Care Services, the local resource and referral (R&R) agency. "Many parents struggle with the high cost of infant care, particularly in centers."

Although the county does have its child care shortages, it also has the good fortune of having the University of California at Davis, which funds some R&R activities. Due in part to the University's input and funding, there is a heightened awareness of the R&R throughout the county, and providers and the R&R enjoy close working relationships. Still, many of the area's student and university employee parents need care only during the academic year and then only part time during the summer, leaving some Davis-area providers with high summer vacancy rates and economic and logistical challenges.

Outside the Davis area, the West Sacramento community is addressing child care issues through its city-wide planning process, which has included the formation of a child care developer ordinance. The Woodland community has had active support from the city for child care provider and direct child care services. For Child Care Services, the greatest challenge is the development of child care resources in the most rural areas of the county—Dunnigan, Clarksburg, and Knights Landing. The R&R has implemented major county-wide provider training programs and has increased options for families with special needs children.

"One major goal of our organization is to offer support services to providers to reduce their feelings of isolation and increase the continuity and quality of available child care."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 170,085 residents, including 33,279 (20%) children under the age of 14; 16,260 (10%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 2,788 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 2,981 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 17% (5,769) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 77%; Spanish: 14%; Chinese: 2%; Korean, Vietnamese: 1%. 5% of residents speak at least one of 19 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 53% of children 5 years and younger, and 63% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 7,808 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 3,982 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 11,663 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 2,333 are in child care outside the family.
- 79% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 21% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child under 2 years old in a licensed child care center: $177/week or $9,204 annually (89% of minimum wage)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $121/week or $6,292 annually (61% of minimum wage)

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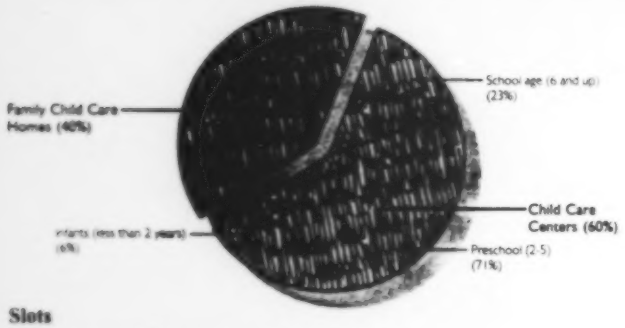
Child Care Capacity in Yolo County

For information about child care in Yolo County, call Child Care Services at 916-757-5691 or 1-800-378-5044.



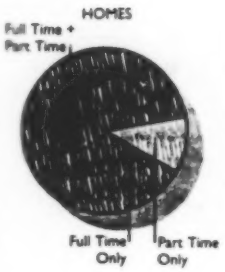
Slots

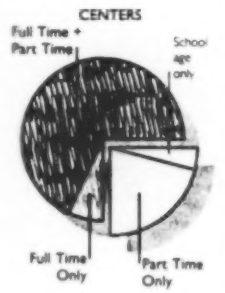
- 2,064 slots in 259 licensed family child care homes
- 3,119 slots in 64 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 66% accept children full time and part time; 23% accept children full time only; 11% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 69% accept children full time and part time; 7% accept children full time only; and 25% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, 16% are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 23% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 75% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, none provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 37% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (71%), school/training (18%), and child enrichment (6%). Other reasons include: seeking employment, referred by CPS or other professional, and other parent needs.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 37%; preschool care: 41%; school-age care: 22%

Family child care homes: 89%; child care centers: 53%; in-home care: 4%; other: less than 1%

Child care near their home: 82%; near their place of work, school, or training: 10%; near the child's school: 7%

Full-time care: 51%; part-time care: 52%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 52%; part-time care: 52%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 5%; before- and/or after-school care: 7%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 4% by Spanish-speaking providers; 1% by Chinese-speaking providers; less than 1% by Vietnamese-speaking providers. None requested care by Tagalog- or Korean-speaking providers. 1% requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 98% of providers speak English; 14%, Spanish; 2%, Chinese. None speak Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 12% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 97% have providers who speak English; 63%, Spanish; 4%, Tagalog; 3%, Chinese; 1%, Vietnamese; none, Korean. 10% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

Yuba County

"Our biggest problem is that child care providers are few and far between. It's extremely difficult to attract licensed providers because it's difficult for them to stay afloat financially."

Yuba is a rural, agriculturally-based county north of Sacramento that is home to primarily middle- and low-income families. Most of the county's population lives in Marysville, one of the "twin cities" along with Sutter County's Yuba City.

Families in Yuba County and its southern neighbor Sutter County are served by the Children's Home Society of California, a private, nonprofit child welfare agency and the county's resource and referral (R&R) agency. The two counties share much in common with respect to issues of families and children: distances between communities and caregivers create transportation challenges, and many families are in need of financial assistance.

Despite the low number of providers, vacancy rates are still relatively high in some areas—particularly where the population is unable to afford and sustain them. Overall, the county has a great need for subsidized care and, like other communities in California, needs more infant care and flexible care providers.

"I recently worked with a woman who was living in a beautiful older part of downtown Marysville and needed care for her child," recalls a staff member. "I was able to give her only two options: one child care center and one family care home. There are so few choices because there is just not the market to sustain many child care providers in this area. The number of families on AFDC is so high here that many family child care providers have closed shop because they can't make enough money."

Like other rural counties, transportation is an issue for many Yuba County families. "We have a wonderful area transit system, but with limited service and wide loops it's impossible for most parents to use it between work, home, and child care. If parents drop off a child at day care they must wait at least an hour to catch the next bus to work. I recently received a call from a woman with a newborn who wanted to know if any social service provider would help her with a loan for a down payment on a car."

At a Glance

The People

- An estimated 69,773 residents, including 17,959 (26%) children under the age of 14; 7,669 (11%) seniors, 65 years or older.
- An estimated 2,813 children, 5 years old or younger, live in poverty; 2,542 children ages 6 through 13 live in poverty; 30% (5,355) of children under the age of 14 live in poverty.

Languages Spoken at Home

- English: 84%; Spanish: 8%; Tagalog: 1%. 7% of residents speak at least one of 18 other languages.

Work, Family, and Child Care

- 37% of children 5 years and younger, and 48% of children ages 6 through 13, live in households where either both parents or the single-parent head-of-household is in the labor force. Of the estimated 3,146 children 5 years and younger with parents in the labor force, about 1,604 are in child care outside the family. Of the estimated 4,516 children ages 6 through 13 with parents in the labor force, about 903 are in child care outside the family.
- 80% of people working outside the home commute to work between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.; 20% leave home after 10 a.m. to work at off-hour jobs (swing or night shifts).

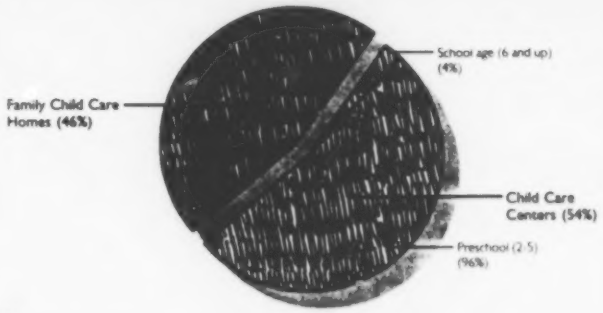
Salaries and Child Care Costs

- Minimum wage: $5/hour ($10,400/year)
- Average cost of full-time care for a child 2–5 years old in a licensed child care center: $75/week or $3,900 annually (38% of minimum wage)

Excerpted from *The California Child Care Portfolio* © 1997 (permission to reproduce granted), California Child Care Resource & Referral Network (available through your local resource and referral agency). Data included is from: 1990 Census of Population and Housing STF-3, U.S. Bureau of the Census. CPR, P70-53 "Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?". March 1996, U.S. Bureau of the Census. CPR, P70-30 "Who's Minding the Kids?". Fall 1988, State of California, Population Projections. July 1996, 1996 Regional Market Rate Survey of California's Child Care Providers. Mean Rates for Child Care, and R&R provider and caller databases.

Child Care Capacity in Yuba County

For information about child care in Yuba County, call the Children's Home Society of California at 916-673-7503.



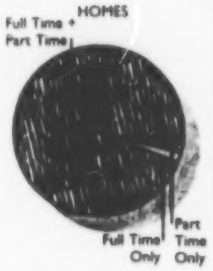
Slots

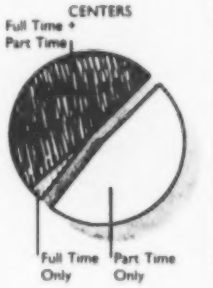
- 606 slots in 74 licensed family child care homes
- 700 slots in 19 licensed child care centers

Schedules

- Of *all* slots in licensed family child care homes, 92% accept children full time and part time; 6% accept children full time only; 2% accept children part time only.
- Of *all* slots in licensed child care centers, 50% accept children full time and part time; 3% accept children full time only; and 48% accept children part time only.
- For slots at licensed child care centers accepting children part time only, none are in centers serving school-age children only.

  Providers who accept children both full time and part time often prefer children to be enrolled full time, thereby reducing the number of part-time slots available.
- Of the total number of licensed family child care homes, 38% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 95% offer before- and/or after-school care.
- Of the total number of licensed and license-exempt centers, 5% provide evening, overnight, or weekend care and 33% offer before- and/or after-school care.





Why parents call their R&R

Of the many reasons parents call for child care referrals, those most often cited are employment (66%), school/training (26%), and seeking employment (5%). Other reasons include: other parent needs and child enrichment.

What kind of child care do callers request?

Infant care: 24%; preschool care: 43%; school-age care: 32%

Family child care homes: 97%; child care centers: 84%; in-home care: 1%; other: 1%

Child care near their home: 44%; near their place of work, school, or training: 11%; near the child's school: 6%; other location/no preference: 56%

Full-time care: 38%; part-time care: 66%

For children under six years old, full-time care: 47%; part-time care: 58%

Evening, overnight, or weekend care: 12%; before- and/or after-school care: 23%

99% of callers requested care by English-speaking providers; 7% by Spanish-speaking providers; 2% by Tagalog-speaking providers. None requested care by Chinese-, Korean-, or Vietnamese-speaking providers. None requested care by providers speaking other languages.

Languages Spoken by Providers

- In licensed family child care homes 100% of providers speak English; 14%, Spanish. None speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 1% of providers speak other languages.
- Of licensed and license-exempt child care centers 100% have providers who speak English; 48%, Spanish. None have providers who speak Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, or Vietnamese. 14% have providers who speak other languages.

  Totals may exceed 100% because providers may speak more than one language.

About the Data

While the statistics included in *The California Child Care Portfolio* offer a profile of care available in each county it should be noted that many factors (including: cost of care, availability of special schedules, ages that providers accept, language matches, training to work with children with special needs, location, proximity to public transportation, and the provider's ability to accept siblings) impact a family's ability to take advantage of a vacant "slot."

In some categories multiple services may be offered so total percentages shown may exceed 100%. The data about requests for child care reflect only the needs of those parents or guardians who called an R&R agency. It may not include families who rely on relatives, friends, or neighbors to provide care, or on those parents or families who seek information about child care through other means. Since parents may have requested information about more than one child care option (e.g., they might ask about one or more language), total percentages shown here may exceed 100%. Parents may not have considered all options available and thus information about requests may not present the complete array of child care needs in the county. Nonetheless, this data (collected from people calling R&Rs April through June 1996) represents the most accurate and consistent information available to date about child care requests in California.

To order copies of ***The California Child Care Portfolio***, contact the **California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, 415-882-8234.** To receive copies of county pages, contact your local resource and referral member agency (R&R).

Alameda County
4C's of Alameda County 510-790-0658
Bananas 510-658-7101
Resources for Family Development 510-455-5111

Alpine County
Choices For Children 916-694-2129

Amador County
HRC–Child Care Resources 209-223-1624

Butte County
Valley Oak Children's Services 916-895-3572

Calaveras County
HRC–Child Care Resources 209-754-1075

Colusa County
Children's Services– Colusa Cty Off. of Educ. 916-458-0300

Contra Costa County
Contra Costa Child Care Council 510-676-5442

Del Norte County
Del Norte Child Care Council 707-464-8311

El Dorado County
Choices For Children (Shingle Springs) 916-676-0707
Choices For Children (South Lake Tahoe) 916-541-5848

Fresno County
Central Valley Children's Services Network 209-456-1100

Glenn County
Valley Oak Children's Services 800-345-8627

Humboldt County
Humboldt Child Care Council 707-444-8293

Imperial County
Imperial County Child Development Services 619-339-6431

Inyo County
Child Care Connection 619-873-5123

Kern County
Community Connection for Child Care 805-861-5200

Kings County
Kings County Community Action Organization 209-582-4386

Lake County
NCO–Rural Communities Child Care 707-462-1954

Lassen County
Lassen Child & Family Resources 916-257-9781

Los Angeles County
Child & Family Services 213-427-2700
Child Care Information Service–Arcadia 818-445-3311
Child Care Information Service—Pomona 909-629-5011
Child Care Resource Center of San Fernando Valley 818-762-0711
Children's Home Society of California 310-901-3145
Connections for Children 310-452-3325
Crystal Stairs, Inc. 213-299-8998
Equipoise, Inc. 310-605-1789
Mexican American Oppt'y Fdn–Child Care R&R 213-890-9616
Options–A Child Care & Human Services Agency 818-856-5902

Madera County
Madera County Action Committee–R&R 209-675-8469

Marin County
Marin Child Care Council 415-472-1092

Mariposa County
Infant/Child Enrichment Services 209-966-4474

Mendocino County
NCO–Rural Communities Child Care 707-462-1954

Merced County
Children's Services Network of Merced County, Inc. 209-722-3805

Modoc County
Modoc Child Care R&R 916-233-KIDS

Mono County
Community Connection for Children 619-934-3343

Monterey County
Monterey Cty Child Care R&R Program 408-757-0756

Napa County
Community Resources for Children 707-253-0376

Nevada County
Sierra Nevada Children's Services (Grass Valley) 916-272-8866
Sierra Nevada Children's Services (Truckee) 916-587-5960

Orange County
Children's Home Society of California 714-835-8252

Placer County
Placer County Office of Education–Child Care Services 916-652-1055

Plumas County
Plumas Rural Services 916-283-4453

Riverside County
Riverside County Office of Education 909-788-6610

Sacramento County
Child Action, Inc. 916-387-0510

San Benito County
Growth & Opportunity, Inc. 408-637-9205

San Bernardino County
San Bernardino Cty Schools–Child Dev. Services 909-478-5757
Child Care Information Service–Pomona 909-629-5011

San Diego County
YMCA Childcare Resource Service 619-521-3055

San Francisco County
Children's Council of San Francisco 415-243-0700
Wu Yee Children's Services 415-391-8993

San Joaquin County
Family Resource & Referral Center 209-948-1553

San Luis Obispo County
EOC–Child Care Resource Connection 805-544-4355

San Mateo County
Child Care Coordinating Council of San Mateo Cty 415-696-8780

Santa Barbara County
Santa Barbara Cty Children's R&R Program 805-925-7071

Santa Clara County
Community Coordinated Child Dev. Council 408-947-0900

Santa Cruz County
Child Development Resource Center 408-479-5282

Shasta County
Early Childhood Services–Office of Education 916-224-3200

Sierra County
Sierra Nevada Children's Services (Downieville) 916-289-3666
Sierra Nevada Children's Services (Loyalton) 916-993-1288

Siskiyou County
Siskiyou Child Care Council 916-938-2748

Solano County
Solano Family & Children's Council 707-427-6600

Sonoma County
4Cs of Sonoma County 707-544-3084
River Child Care Services 707-869-3613

Stanislaus County
Office of Education, Child Development Department 209-525-5049

Sutter County
Children's Home Society of California 916-673-7503

Tehama County
Shasta Cty Off. of Ed., Child Care Referral and Ed. 916-529-3131

Trinity County
Human Response Network 916-623-2542

Tulare County
Office of Ed.–Child Care R&R 209-651-0862

Tuolumne County
Infant/Child Enrichment Services 209-533-0377

Ventura County
Child Development Resources of Ventura County, Inc. 805-485-7878

Yolo County
Child Care Services 916-757-5691

Yuba County
Children's Home Society of California 916-673-7503

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